INSIST ON
Bartlett-Bacon bills being passed. Insist on knowing where your Representatives in Congress stand. You have a right to know.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE
ORGANIZE
EDUCATE

VOL. 4. NO. 7 WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1914. WHOLE NO. 163

NO MINERS' GENERAL STRIKE

Indianapolis, Ind., May 16.—It would be unwise to call a general strike at this time was the decision of the executive board of the United Mine Workers, which discussed the Colorado situation and finally agreed that: "We believe that we can better aid our gallant brothers in Colorado by remaining at work, thus insuring in a financial way our fullest support to the men, women, and children, who have been long engaged in the great struggle in Colorado. We must be in a position to finance properly the strike in the State indefinitely, until the success of the miners' cause is assured, and a general strike at this time might jeopardize our position in this respect without adding anything material to the success of the Colorado strike."

An appeal for aid was issued, and was signed by the officers, who say, in part:

"Will you aid them (the Colorado strikers and families) in their struggle against John D. Rockefeller, jr., and the interests which he represents? The request of the President of the United States through his personal representative that Mr. Rockefeller use his influence in behalf of peace was refused. When he denied the President's request, he assumed to be bigger than the Government itself. Shall such a condition be tolerated by a free people? Are Mr. Rockefeller and the interests which he represents larger and more powerful than the Government of the United States?

"We need your help, your sympathy, and your support. We appeal to you to respond promptly and liberally and thus place yourself fairly and squarely on the side of all the people as against John D. Rockefeller, jr., whose name is inseparably associated with Standard Oil."

In dealing with the hazardousness of the work of the miner, the report on the Colorado situation declares that "Government statistics show that covering a period of ten years past more men were killed per thousand employed in the coal mines of Colorado than in any other mining section throughout the entire world."

The Colorado report also attacks John D. Rockefeller, jr., declaring that he by "one word favoring a settlement between the representatives of the coal companies and the representatives of the striking employes," could have avoided the loss of life and damage to property in that State.

FOR THE "KIDDIES" TO PLAY.

Toledo, Ohio, May 16—A permanent Child Welfare Commission, to provide and maintain accessible playgrounds for Toledo's boys and girls, has been appointed. The Common Council and various civic bodies are represented on this board. Plans for a playground system for the city first are to be made by the committee, after proper organization. Then ways and means of acquiring such facilities will be determined. Playgrounds near the city's most congested districts and a supervisor of playgrounds, to be employed by the bodies represented, are ambitions of the welfare committee. Broader and more general responsibilities and improvements for the future are contemplated. The child welfare committee is being organized by the associated bodies and will be so maintained because the city financially is unable to assume such responsibilities. It shall be the endeavor to have provision for a public welfare department made in Toledo's new charter now in course of construction.

STEEL WORKERS CONFER.

Columbus, Ohio, May 16.—The thirty-ninth annual convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers is in session in this city. Governor Cox welcomed the delegates on behalf of the state and referred to the progress of labor legislation. Shorter hours of labor, higher wages and better working conditions, not alone for the material benefits thereof, but that the workers may prove more efficient and develop mentally, morally and physically, were held to be the purposes of the organization by President John Williams in his address. "Our great purpose," he said, "is to do our utmost in the work of rescuing men, women and children of our country from industrial slavery. A part of this purpose is found in our stand for the shorter workday—a six-hour day, eventually—and an equal chance for all human beings to enjoy the good things of life."

PAYMENTS REACH HIGH FIGURE

Madison, Wis., May 16.—Officials in charge of the compensation act in this state have published figures which show that the payments for compensation to workers injured through industrial accidents in April was at the rate of over $1,000,000 a year. The amount of compensation paid to employes was $67,175.61. The expense for medical, hospital and surgical services which is also paid by the employers, amounted to approximately $33,587.80, making the total relief furnished to injured men $100,762.41. This was at the rate of $3,358.41 per day, or $1,209,148.92 per annum. The expense of the commission for administering the law during April was less than $900.

"MOTHERS' DAY" BILL PASSED.

Washington, May 16.—"We honor ourselves and the mothers of America when we do anything to give emphasis to the home as the fountain head of the state," was one of the declarations in the bill passed by the United States Senate, which had already been approved by the House. The bill provides that the second Sunday in May, hereafter, will be known as "Mothers' Day," and be a national holiday. The President is directed to see that the day is observed as such throughout the United States by the raising of flags on all government buildings and by public proclamation calling on all citizens to display flags.

ST. PAUL LABOR TEMPLE.

St. Paul, May 16.—The Union Labor Temple Association of St. Paul, which will erect a $100,000 building, has filed articles of incorporation with State officials. The corporation will issue 20,000 membership certificates at $5 each, with a limit of twenty certificates to any one member. The limit of indebtedness is fixed at $100,000.

SCOW CAPTAINS STRIKE.

New York, May 16.—A strike against the New York Boat Owners' Association has been ordered by the new union of scow captains, affiliated to the International Longshoremen's Association. An increase in wages from $40 to $45 a month to $50 and $60 a month and recognition of the union are asked for.

TO ORGANIZE CLERKS.

Nashville, Tenn., May 16.—The local Trades and Labor Council has appointed a committee to assist in the formation of a Retail Clerks union.

TO IMPEACH FEDERAL JUDGE

Washington, May 16.—Impeachment proposals are contained in a resolution introduced by Representative Neely, of West Virginia, which asks the Judiciary committee to consider charges against Federal Judge Dayton, who has been jailing West Virginia workers on contempt proceedings because of a miner's strike in that section. The Representative said he had received petitions from 9,000 laboring men urging the removal of Judge Dayton, who is charged with the following:

"That he has issued injunctions against labor unions, which place them beyond the pale of the law, and which make their deliberative actions conspiracy and their members miscreants and felons;

"That he has had men and women arrested on the sole charge of asking other men to join the union;

"That by the use of injunction he has prevented the exercise of the constitutional right of the people to assemble peaceably to petition for redress of wrongs.

"That under prosecution by contempt proceedings he recently found Mayor Schwartz guilty of contempt of court and sentenced him to serve sixty days in jail for the sole reason that said Schwartz rented his property to a labor man;

"That he has publicly declared his antagonism to persons not yet on trial, whom he expected to be tried before him;

"That in the hearing of contempt proceedings he ignores the West Virginia laws and the Federal constitution, and refuses to follow the decisions of the Supreme Court;

"That his decisions have been such as to result in their reversal by a higher court, but that such appeals are so costly as to be prohibitive to some, and that this puts a price upon justice which keeps it out of the reach of poor people."

Two impeachment cases are already pending before the House Judiciary committee, involving Judge Emory Speer, of the Georgia Federal District Court, and Daniel Thew Wright, of the District of Columbia Supreme Court.

NEWS FROM BOSTON.

Boston, May 16.—Many unions report wage increases and better working conditions that have been secured without strikes. The Grocery and Provision Clerks' union is meeting with success in its shorter workday campaign. The Garment Workers' union has raised a big defense fund to oppose those employers who favor returning to nonunion shop methods. Carriage, Wagon and Automobile Workers' union announces that its 1914 agreement, carrying substantial betterments, has been accepted by all union employers. The discharge of one of their number, without cause, resulted in a strike against a large shop by the Inside and Ornamental Iron, Bronze and Wire Workers union, which has only recently been organized. The second wage increase for street railway employes is now in effect. The lathers have secured a wage increase of 25 cents per 1,000 for ordinary wood lathing. The elevator constructors' third increase, under its agreement, is now in effect. The journeymen get $5 a day, and helpers and apprentices $3.24. The Egg Inspectors' union reports wage increases and better working conditions without a strike. Stationary Firemen's union, No. 243, reports that a number of men who went to a seceding union have returned to the bona fide organization.

COMPENSATION ACT PASSED.

Toronto, Can., May 16.—With the passing of a workmen's compensation bill by the Ontario legislature, Canadian trade unionists have won their long struggle for this remedial legislation, which was only made possible through the most persistent activity of the organized workers, who furnished the finances wherewith to carry on agitation, to hold public meetings, to issue literature and papers and give the question the publicity that made success finally certain. The act is to become effective not later than the first of next year. Domestic servants and farmers are not included in the legislation. In case of death, compensation is paid to the dependents in the form of a pension for life, except in the case of the children left. Their compensation stops when they reach the age of sixteen. Compensation for disability is based upon the earning capacity of the worker. In case of total disability, compensation for life with a limit of $1,100 a year is allowed.

ALIENS DODGE CITIZENSHIP.

Jefferson City, Mo., May 16.—A bulletin issued by the State Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that immigrant aliens coming into this state, are not making their first declaration of intentions of becoming citizens as rapidly as the influx did ten years ago. Applications for final papers are also not as numerous, in proportion, as formerly. This condition is attributed to a decided change in nationality, education and intelligence of the aliens who are coming in, there being a decrease of those from England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, France, Switzerland, North Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Austria, and one or two other countries of North Europe, and an increase of those from South Europe.

TO ENFORCE FAIR WAGE CLAUSE

Toronto, May 16.—The agitation of trade unionists in this city for an enforcement of the fair wage clause has brought results, and the minimum rate paid to laborers working for contractors on municipal work has been advanced from 18 cents to 25 cents per hour. The City Council has instructed fair wage officers to visit all city work and question employes as to wages and conditions of labor. The clause, as regards wages in all future contracts, will read: "The union or prevailing rate of wages shall mean that where a union of the craft exists their scale shall rule, and where no union exists the accepted prevailing rate shall be accepted."

OPPOSE FREE SEEDS.

Washington, May 16.—By a vote of 32 to 21 the Senate struck from the agricultural appropriation bill the item for the distribution of free seeds by members of Congress. Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, said the farmers in his section considered the distribution of free seeds a "cheap attempt to curry favor." An attempt to permit the seed distribution to school children failed. The bill now goes to a conference of both Houses, when efforts will be made to re-establish the amendment.

ARBITRATORS ARE CHOSEN.

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 16.—An arbitration board has been named to adjust differences between the Pittsburgh Railways company and their 3,000 employes who are members of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employes, affiliated to the A. F. of L. The men are asking for a flat rate of 35 cents an hour and improved working conditions.

U. S. SUPREME COURT DISMISSES CONTEMPT CASE

Washington, May 16.—After a seven years' battle in various courts of the District of Columbia and the United States Supreme Court, the latter tribunal has made final disposition of the Gompers-Mitchell-Morrison contempt case by setting aside the penalties inflicted by the lower court on the ground that the statute of limitations barred further proceedings.

The highest court in the land thus declined to decide the questions of free speech and free press, which unionists insisted were involved. This ending of the famous suit, however, marks a development of public opinion against injunction practices that never would have been possible but for organized labor, who stood as a solid phalanx behind those officers who were attacked, and who stood stanch in the great struggle for the guarantees that some courts would deny. This preserving attitude of the workers is now reflexed in the changing attitude of legislators and the judiciary toward writs and orders that would deny workers rights accorded, without question, to others.

The cause of the contempt case was the efforts of the American Federation of Labor to assist the International Union of Metal Polishers, an allied organization, in its contest with the Bucks Stove and Range Company, whose president, Mr. Van Cleave, was also president of the National Association of Manufacturers. On December 18, 1907, Justice Gould, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, issued a sweping and general injunction against the American Federation of Labor, its officers, and all others within the jurisdiction of the court, from making any reference whatsoever to the company's relations with organized labor. No injunction ever issued equaled this drastic writ, which ordered that no reference could be made, either by written or printed word, or orally, of the fact that the company was engaged in a dispute, or that it had been unfair to labor. The order not only applied to the officers of the A. F. of L. but to "each of their agents, servants, attorneys, confederates, and any and all persons acting in aid of or in conjunction with them."

President Gompers and his colleagues showed that this injunction even denied them the right to discuss Justice Gould's order and the principles involved, as the company's name would necessarily be mentioned, thereby violating the order and making them liable to punishment for contempt of court. This, the unionists pointed out, was the "high-water mark," as it were, of government by injunction rule, as the constitutional guarantees of free speech and free press were attempted to be set aside by an order of a court.

On these grounds the unionists declared it their duty to contest this unheard of injunction, and the case was appealed to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. With this began a campaign for remedial legislation that included an amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law, the elimination of injunctions in purely industrial disputes, and reform of contempt proceedings.

Later, President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison were ordered to appear before Justice Wright to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt. They were found guilty, and in a speech replete with bitter invective and abuse, the court sentenced President Gompers to one year in jail, Vice President Mitchell to nine months, and Secretary Morrison to six months. The action of the court, together with his intemperate language, electrified the American workers, who rallied to the support of their officers, and the incident drove home, more effectually than ever the principles for which the three unionists made battle. Pending the appeal to the United States Supreme Court, an agreement was reached between organized labor and the company, settling all disputive questions. As a consequence, when the appeal reached the Supreme Court, the case was decided to be "moot," and therefore the principles involved in the contention were not passed upon by the court.

After a series of motions and hearings in lower courts, the United States Supreme Court, on May 15, 1911, set these verdicts aside and ordered the case remanded for trial "without prejudice." On re-trial the sentences were reduced to thirty days' imprisonment for President Gompers and fines of $500 each for Vice President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison.

For "sidelight" purposes, and to illustrate the "fairness" and judicial temperament of Justice Wright, it may be recalled that when the Supreme Court ordered the case remanded for trial, Justice Wright appointed a commission of lawyers who were instructed to investigate and report to him whether there was "reasonable ground to believe" that the defendants violated the injunction. Judge Wright appointed as the committee the lawyers who prosecuted Gompers, Mitchell, and Morrison in the first case.

"The "committee," intending to place the defendants in a false position and to humiliate them, offered them the opportunity to "apologize" to the court and to promise obedience to the issuance of its orders, the implication being that they would thereby acknowledge that they had been guilty of wrong doing. This Messrs. Gompers, Mitchell, and Morrison refused to do; their contention was for the rights of the freedom of speech and the press, and the exercise of the normal activities of the working people. Several conventions of the American Federation of Labor encouraged and sustained this contention, and the rank and file of the working people of the country as well as all others who love liberty and justice, rallied to the support of the men who were taking whatever risk might ensue for their contention of the principles involved.

Last Monday the United States Supreme Court dismissed the case on the ground that it was barred by the statute of limitations.

From an educational standpoint, incalculable benefit has been the net result of the agitation that has followed the uncompromising attitude of the American Federation of Labor, whose position in this matter has finally attracted the attention of every right-thinking person to the iniquities of the injunction as a weapon against labor and to the ends some judges will go in their use of this writ to even set aside the American Magna Charta. These encroachments, if not checked, it is now agreed, would eventually be used against other elements of our citizenship. These gains can not be computed from the standpoint of dollars and cents, for they are interwoven with every economic and legislative advance now being made by the men of toil in even the smallest community of our land, and are factors in the sum total that will eventually place in our statutes enactments that will sweep from injunction judges their assumed right to act as lawmaker, jury, and judge.

PROSECUTE 'LABOR SHARKS'

Detroit, May 16.—The State Department of Labor announces that the numerous prosecutions are compelling a greater respect for the law intended to regulate employment bureaus. When the investigations were started last fall it was found that this law was generally disregarded. It was a practice among some of the employment bureaus to send runners about the streets of Detroit, gather up men and send them to the bureau to register, charging them $1 each. They were then told that a job was waiting for them, but that a fee of 10 per cent of the first month's wages must be paid before they would be given the position. The inspectors found cases where men were sent into other states and into Canada, after paying $4 or $5, besides their railroad fare, only to find, upon arriving at their destination, that no work was waiting for them. As a result of these investigations, the state is prosecuting violators of a law which provides that a workingman shall be given a position and actually enter upon the performance of his work before an employment bureau has a right to collect any fee. To further protect the workingman against extortion by labor employment bureaus, the law specifies that if the agency does not, within thirty days, find work for a man who has registered and paid his fee of $1, it must return half of that amount to him. Unscrupulous men are kept out of the business by the provision which makes it necessary to obtain a license from the commissioner of labor, who may revoke it when he is convinced that the law is being violated.

"RUNNING HIS OWN BUSINESS."

Kansas City, Mo., May 16.—Howard A. Fitch, president of the Kansas City Structural Steel company, and president of the Commerce club, evidently does not agree with his anti-union associates that they have "the right to run their own business," as Mr. Fitch is quoted in a local paper, while discussing labor conditions here, as declaring that "our attitude will depend on what the business men of Kansas City say. We want to hear from them before we make any plans." Mr. Fitch expresses alarm over the present "labor forward" movement in this city, which is being urged by the trade union movement. He says "the unions have swooped down on Kansas City" and advocates war and curtailment of output, the very things charged against labor, in the following words: "So far as our company is concerned, we are not worrying. We can lay down on all kinds of work if we care to and it won't hurt us. But if the business men of Kansas City oppose complete control by the unions we will go into battle and stand in the front ranks all down the line."

CAR MEN RAISE WAGES.

Akron, May 16.—The Street Carmen's Union has ratified the proposition of the N. O. T. & L. company for one year. An arbitration clause is included, to apply when representatives of the union and the company cannot adjust differences. The rate of wages for motormen and conductors is a straight increase of two cents per hour. The men receive 25 cents for first year, 26 cents second year, 27 cents third year, 28 cents fourth year, and 29 cents for five-year men.

A RECORD VERDICT.

White Plains, N. Y., May 16.—The greatest damage verdict ever given a workman in this state, $75,000, was awarded by a jury to Oscar Fried, who had both arms burned off while in the employ of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad. Fried, who is thirty years old, touched an electric wire last year, and 11,000 volts of electricity penetrated his body. He was comatose for eight days, and then both arms, which had been burned to a crisp, were amputated.

'WHY CHILDREN GO TO WORK'

Toledo, Ohio, May 16.—Large placards at the Child Welfare Exhibit, on exhibition in this city, answered the question, "Why children go to work." One of these cards stated that: "The average wage of the day laborer in Toledo is $2 a day, or $624 a year, providing he gets steady work. The yearly expense of his child going to high school and living at home is $114.60. This leaves $510.40 a year for father, mother and younger children to live on."

Among the other interesting statistics were the following: "Toledo has five mercantile establishments paying girls less than $4 a week. There are 532 girls under 18 working in Toledo for less than $7 a week and 210 girls for less than $6 a week.

"An investigation of girls from all parts of Toledo, working as clerks, stenographers, nurses, maids, and in offices and factories, shows that 75 per cent of them help support families."

PROGRESS IS REPORTED.

Camden, May 16.—Optimism was the keynote of President Cosgrove's address to the twelfth annual convention of the New Jersey State Building Trades Council, which convened in this city. It was shown that a number of disputes had been amicably settled during the year. Additional legislation was secured, as was many wage increases that will benefit all workers in the building industry. About 150 delegates were in attendance.

NON-UNIONISTS JOIN STRIKE.

Erie, Pa., May 16.—Over 80 non-union carpenters joined the strike of union carpenters for better conditions. The demands include an eight-hour day at 45 cents an hour. The old rate called for nine hours at 42 1-2 cents an hour. Many contractors are signing the new agreements and the strikers anticipate no extended difficulty.

HOW TO BUILD LABOR TEMPLE.

Fort Williams, Ont., May 16.—Unionists in this city issued a call for a labor temple "bee." An army of building craftsmen responded, and by night had erected a serviceable structure that will be used hereafter by the workers.

HUMANE METHODS FAVORED

San Francisco, May 16.—Humane methods in the treatment of criminals was urged at a conference of district attorneys and deputies. In discussing "Prisons and Parole," Col. Duffy, president of the prison board said:

"In the past there was an effort to fit the penalty to the crime, not the criminal. Then law dealt with abstractions; the typical criminal was thought of as a strong, desperate, clever man, criminal at heart and regarding his achivements in crime as an art. The real, typical criminal, however, is a physically subnormal man, low in will and deficient in self-control, sense of proportion and balance, if not actually deficient in mental power.

"The old system was based on a single act, not on character. The modern system will not accept the assumption that because a man has committed a crime he must be criminal at heart. It considers character, not conduct, as the only sound basis of judgment.

"Two classes are recognized by the modern system—those who will reform themselves and those who must be reformed. The former may be paroled, but the latter must be trained. And in order to find out to what class he belongs it is necessary to know not only what he did, but why he did it."

CARPENTERS ARE ACTIVE.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 16.—General Secretary Duffy, of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, announces the following trade movements: Carpenters in St. Catharines, Can., received an increase in wages of 3 cents per hour, effective July 1, 1914. Jackson, Mich., an increase of 2 1-2 cents per hour, making the minimum wage in that city 40 cents per hour. Uniontown, Pa., an increase from 40 to 45 cents per hour. Strikes are under way in Cincinnati, Ohio (700 men involved), Troy, N. Y.; La Salle, Ill.; White Plains, N. Y.; and New Castle, Pa., all in a fair way to settlement. Local unions were organized in the following cities during the month of April: Denver, Colo.; (Carriage, Auto and Wagon Makers); Malden, Mo.; Gridley, Cal.; Reeves, Ill.; Allentown, Pa., (millmen); Jerome, Ariz.; Winnipeg, Can.; Wauchula, Fla.; Cleveland, Ohio; (Hungarian), and Dodge City, Kans.

TO DISTRIBUTE LABOR.

Jefferson City, Mo., May 16.—The State Bureau of Labor Statistics has announced it will supply farmers and berry growers of this state with harvest hands and berry pickers this spring and summer. Applicants will register at either the St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph, or Jefferson City free employment offices. Harvest hands will also be supplied to southwestern states. Citizens of Missouri will be given preference in the distribution of this work.

TEAMSTERS GO ON STRIKE.

Newark, N. J., May 16.—Teamsters employed by a large contractor in this city are on strike for $16 a week, pay for overtime and a working day to end at 5 o'clock. The men say they have been receiving $12 and $12.50 a week and the refusal of their employer to answer their request forced them to strike.

OFFICE WORKERS' ADVANCE

New York, May 16.—One of the first agreements entered into by the Bookkeepers, Stenographers, and Accountants' A. F. of L. Union, No. 12646, is recorded with the signed contract between that organization and the Workmen's Circle, which provides for a seven-hour workday, from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m. and from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m., unless otherwise stipulated in writing by the Circle and the union shop committee. Saturday half-holidays are granted, and the whole day on legal holidays. Each employe will have two weeks' vacation annually after one year's employment. The present wage scale will continue until changed by agreement between the parties in interest. The union label and general rules applicable to union offices are to be observed. No employe shall be dismissed except for just cause, and no discrimination shall be made because of union activity. An employe shall be given two weeks' notice before dismissal. The Circle agrees to appoint a committee with power and authority to consider all questions of wages, conditions of employment or grievances, and to make all office rules on behalf of the clerks. The union agrees to furnish competent members on reasonable notice; to compel its members to give two weeks' notice before quitting the Circle's employment; to assist in the enforcement of rules in the offices; to compel its members to faithfully keep this agreement, and to appoint a shop committee to act with a similar committee from the Circle in the adjustment of disputes. Both sides favor arbitration in the final settlement of differences.

PAINTERS' MOVEMENTS.

Jersey City, N. J., May 16.—Three hundred painters have voted not to return to work until employers grant their demands for $18 a week and a 44-hour work week.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 16.—The painters have made almost a clean sweep to establish a wage rate of $4 a day. About twenty-five employers have signed agreements, and less than 100 men are now on strike.

Dayton, Ohio, May 16.—Painters in this city struck because contractors refused an eight-hour day and forty-five cents an hour. The union officials state that nearly 100 nonunionists joined with them in an effort to better conditions.

Akron, Ohio, May 16.—The local painters are meeting with success in their demand for union recognition. Many of the contractors agree that this is the most satisfactory system.

Houston, Tex., May 16.—The painters have entered into an agreement with the Boss Painters' association, and this strike is at an end. The new rate will be $4.25 per day of eight hours for one year. The following year the rate will be $4.50, an increase of twenty-five cents a day.

TIRE MAKERS WIN STRIKE.

Springfield, Mass., May 16.—An agreement ending the strike of tire makers at the Fisk Rubber company has been reached, and the men are again at work. The demands of the tire makers have been granted by the company, except that the men will do the washing of the rubber pieces, to which they objected, until employes and apparatus have been secured by the company for taking this work off their hands. A limit of thirty days has been agreed to for this change. The company promises to take up any grievance of the men, and provisions for arbitration are included in the agreement. The tire makers have been organized and chartered by the American Federation of Labor.

LOAN AGENTS DEALT BLOW.

Sacramento, May 16.—The State Supreme Court has upheld a law fixing the interest limit at 2 per cent a month in this State. The decision is a blow to chattel loan agents. The law not only limits the rate of interest, but prohibits any further charge upon the borrower "for recording, insuring, or examining the property, or for any other service or upon any pretext whatsoever, provided that with the consent of the borrower he may be required to pay the fees actually expended, where the same are made necessary by the law to give full legal effect to any instrument given hereunder."

TO INVESTIGATE JUDGES.

San Francisco, May 16.—Judges seeking re-election will have their records investigated and made public by the law and legislative committee of the Labor Council, with a view to letting men and women of labor know the attitude of the judiciary toward the workers. In speaking on this question, President Gallagher, who introduced the resolution, said: "We do not ask the judiciary to subvert the laws to conform to labor's views, but we do insist upon fair play and justice, and do desire to have every judge get the human viewpoint of each case that comes before him."

HOW BAKERS ADVANCED.

Pueblo, Colo., May 16.—In an address in this city, International Organizer Ross, of the Bakery and Confectionery Worker's Union, called attention to conditions that existed in this trade fifteen years ago, when men worked for $10 to $12 per week, ten to fourteen hours a day. Now they labor a nine-hour day, with an average of $3 a day, with sanitary shops, a chance to educate themselves and improve their lives in every way, because of their trade union, which also provides an excellent list of sick and death benefits.

TO UNITE MILL WORKERS.

Milwaukee, May 16.—Because of unsatisfactory conditions, mill men, shop carpenters, machine hands and woodworkers in this city are holding organization meetings. One of these workers is quoted as saying: "Here our men work ten hours at 25c an hour and in Chicago the woodworkers observe a nine hour day and receive 41 cents per hour. It is the aim of the Carpenters' district council to bring about better organization among the local woodworkers and obtain better results both in scale and hours."

TWO PLATOONS FOR FIREMEN.

Boston, May 14.—On a roll call vote the state legislature passed the two-platoon firemen's bill after a long debate. The bill provides that in cities of 50,000 or more the firemen shall work in two shifts of twelve hours each, and that after a fireman works four days during the day he shall then work four days during the night.

WANT HALF HOLIDAY.

St. Thomas, Ont., May 16.—Clerks are to ask their employers for a Wednesday half holiday during the months of June, July and August. Unionists are showing these workers that an organization would be of much advantage in this movement.

STRIKE TRUTHS HALF TOLD

Denver, Colo., May 16.—Bitter denunciation of the militia and charges that the Ludlow atrocities were not half told featured a report by a committee appointed by the Colorado Woman's Peace organization to investigate the killing of two women, eleven children, and eight men. The report was submitted to Gov. Ammons, and demands that the state executive order an investigation of all happenings connected with the militia in the strike district and the outrages committed by the imported Hessians; that the extra session of the legislature make no provision to pay the indebtedness incurred by the militia, "unless the military rolls are purged of Rockefeller gunmen and thugs; that the governor withdraw his request for a State constabulary; that he exercise his police power to take over the mines for operation by the State, and that a constitutional amendment be submitted permitting the State to develop its own natural resources.

"There is no question in our minds that the militia's attack on the tent colony was planned with care and executed in cold blood," said the report. "Three machine guns were planted in a position prior to Sunday morning. We have been unable to discover that a single gun was fired prior to the explosion of three bombs, which Maj. Hamrock admitted to be his own signal for the battle to begin. Many women and children were still in bed.

"We also found that Maj. Hamrock tested the range of his machine guns by firing into the first line of tents and that later in the engagement, soldiers soaked papers in oil and used these as torches to spread the conflagration. Wholesale looting followed the massacre and one of the pictures painted for us by homeless women was that of soldiers carrying trunks to the station, dancing with stolen blankets about their heads to the music of a stolen accordion and grabbing here and there in the tents for valuables.

"Fifty of the hunted women were about to become mothers, and one unfortunate actually gave birth to her baby while trying to escape the hail of bullets from Hamrock's machine guns.

"No doubt remains in our minds that Tikas and Fyler, the two leaders of the tent colony, were murdered while in the custody of soldiers, and that the Greek (Tikas) was deliberately clubbed by Lieut. Linderfelt while standing helpless and unarmed.

"The elder Snyder declared to us his son Frankie had been shot down by soldiers while cradling his little sister in his arms."

URGE BETTER LAWS.

Nashville, Tenn., May 16.—Workmen's compensation, minimum wage law, widows' pensions, and fire escapes were among the recommendations urged by State Factory Inspector Mitchell in his first annual report to Gov. Hooper.

Inspector Mitchell reports that benefits which are quite apparent have resulted from the enforcement of child labor laws in compelling their attendance at school instead of sacrificing their tender and receptive years in manufacturing and mercantile industries. The enforcement of the statute limiting the hours of labor for women, the report says, has put Tennessee on a par with other states. Much work still remains to be done in sanitation, the report says, and "this is perhaps the hardest problem of any to enforce. Proper ventilation is "not only a factor in the conservation of human energy, but pays a net profit on the investment." Mr. Mitchell heartily recommends the enactment of a workmen's compensation law and believes that one that will be fair and equitable to employer and employe is possible in Tennessee. That there is a crying need for a board of arbitration in Tennessee so that any controversy might be peaceably settled is the belief of the factory inspector.

PAINTERS WIN THEIR STRIKE.

Duluth, May 16.—By winning their strike for union recognition, the union painters of this city have again shown the value of persistence. This local was locked out six years ago, and through a combination of employers lost everything heretofore gained. The outlook was most discouraging. The painters, however, held their heads, and during the intervening years pointed to the demoralization of this industry as the fruits of nonunion conditions. Wages and prices were reduced to the lowest point. No one accepted a standard, and in the general price-cutting that followed, wages in many instances were below the living line, while discord and suspicion were rampant among the workers because of the competition. The unionists agreed the time was ripe, and a few weeks ago struck for recognition. The solid line of opposition had disappeared, and their victory will make future progress possible, as the contractors have secured other viewpoints of the much-vaunted nonunion, or "open" shop.

AMERICAN COLLEGES POPULAR.

Washington, May 16.—Popularity of American universities and colleges with foreigners is indicated by the fact that 4,222 foreign students attended these institutions of learning in 1913, an increase of 577 in two years. A statement by the federal bureau of education says that these students are not concentrated at the larger and better known institutions, as might be expected, but are distributed over 275 different colleges, universities, and schools of technology. The number includes only regular college students. If students enrolled in preparatory departments, short courses, summer schools, and independent professional schools were included, the total would be much larger.

Canada, with 652 students, leads all other countries. China is second with 594 students, and Japan third, with 336.

MEDIATION TO SETTLE STRIKE.

Seattle, Wash., May 16.—One of the most bitter strikes in this section of the country came to a close when the teamsters voted to accept the proposal of the conciliation committee appointed by Mayor Gill. While comparatively few workers were involved, the struggle interested almost every citizen because of the attitude of the Employers' association, which was condemned by public officials, and which was warned by Mayor Gill that policemen would not be furnished for artificial emergencies. It is claimed that the matter could have been settled long ago, but for the interference of this association, who insisted on what they termed the "open shop."

STRIKERS RETURN TO WORK.

Canton, Ohio, May 16.—Carpenters in this city have returned to work, their employers agreeing to pay 40 cents an hour. The carpenters were asking for 45 cents, but consider the settlement a victory, as they formerly worked for any price the contractors were willing to pay. The workers also consider the short time in which they perfected an organization sufficiently strong enough to command attention.

ORGANIZATION IS LABOR'S HOPE

Labor's successful struggle for child labor laws and for women's eight-hour laws are eloquent testimonials to the cause of trade unionism and should close the mouths of the shallow critics and political lunatics who are eternally howling in season and out of season for labor to become more active politically. It emphasizes what President Gompers says, that "organized labor is partisan to a principle and not to a party."

In brief, the aim of organized labor is to serve the practical every-day needs of its members to secure the eight-hour day. A living wage and sanitary work shops is a part of the curriculum of the trade unions of the nation. They do not deal with abstract theories; their mission is to get results and they believe in adhering to and, at times practicing the admonition of the Apostle Paul, "be all things to all men," but true to labor.

Can a cause with such a mission be smothered? Conscientious love for the eternal principles of fair play and the prayers of the mothers of the race say "No." A thousand times "No." The misguided captains of industry might as well attempt to cross the Pacific in a wheelbarrow; to sweep back the waves of the ocean with a whisk broom or to change the planets in their course as to try to prevent the workers of the world from combining for mutual protection.

Organization is the only salvation for the world's workers. Through organization they become stronger physically, mentally and morally—because it lessens the hours of toil, increases the earning capacity, at the same time giving more leisure to read and study the problems of life. The trade union is a moral and mental gymnasium for the workers of the world and has done and is still doing more to protect and promote the interests of the people that need it most than any other or all other institutions combined.

Labor's struggle is no May-Day picnic! It is a man's game that you are engaged in. A tug of war and you haven't got time to let go and examine your hands, for if you do, the other fellow will get something away from you.

Eternal vigilance is not only the price of liberty, but it is the price of everything that is worth having. For example: An eight-hour day, a living wage, sanitary workshops, protection from dangerous machinery, and the removal of every unjust law or practice that deprives the workers of their freedom or robs them of the fruits of their toil.

To secure these laudable ends we must be vigilant, we must not only be in the union, but must have the union in us. A stove without a fire is no use on a cold day. We must start a fire in the stove and it will then do the work for which it was designed.

A card man or a card woman is of but little value to the labor movement. Their strongest asset is to pay dues and assessments under protest and otherwise retard the progress of the cause.

The fellow with the union in him is the live wire, the hot stove, the one who is ready and willing to work on committees and give the best that is in him to promote the general uplift of the men and women of labor.

If you are really in earnest in this crusade, if you have enlisted in this army to fight for your own and others' rights, you should not be among those who loaf in the tents as did the children of Israel, and grumble at the leaders.

If you wish to establish the eight-hour day, work for organization. If you wish to take the children out of the sweat shops, work for organization. If you wish to put money into the pay envelope, work for organization. If you wish for more humane laws, work for organization. In short, if you are willing to lend a hand in the grandest movement, the most righteous cause, that has engaged the efforts of men from time immemorial, work in season and out of season giving your best endeavors to build up and encourage organization—for thereby you will help to answer labor's questions and to solve labor's problems.—Coast Seamen's Journal.

TAYLOR'S "EFFICIENCY"

So much has been said and written about efficiency that many people who have not read between the lines have taken it for granted that by the application of a system whereby the workers' productivity and earning power is increased must be a good thing for the worker, industry and society.

It goes without saying that if this was all to be considered in any efficiency plan, everything would be as represented, and we would be surrounded by conditions which would be ideal, or nearly so, but after carefully investigating all of the plans so far proposed we are convinced they are fine for all who are not forced to work under them.

Mr. Frederick W. Taylor, of Philadelphia, is the leading exponent of the efficiency idea and his handbook for manufacturers on this subject is considered by many as an authority, it being quoted very frequently, but we have yet to see any great publicity being given to the following paragraph:

"For the success of the system the number of men employed on practically the same class of work should be large enough for the workmen quite often to have the object lesson of seeing men laid off for failing to earn high wages, and others substituted in their places."

Here, then, is the meat in the nut of efficiency, and if anything more cruel has even been devised to drive the human machine to its limit we have never heard of it. In fact, the thought that it is human beings who are being subjected to this refined cruelty does not seem to have been considered by the gentlemen who expect the workers to receive them and their plans with open arms and songs of praise.

Just how this theory would work out in practice is very easily seen. The worker selected for the object lesson might be slow of action, but by driving himself to the limit he can perform the task set by the efficiency expert, so that he can maintain those dependent upon him, as he cannot afford to lose even a half day's work, and this must be kept up continually, and each day he sees men discharged for failure to perform the task assigned them.

Can any mind imagine or any pen describe the mental and physical anguish suffered by one forced to labor under inhuman and unfair conditions?

To our mind, the knout and thumbscrew of ancient times are pleasures compared to this modern torture, and the wonder is that so many people have readily become the dupes of men like Taylor.

Torture is torture, regardless of the name applied to it, and until a plan of efficiency is developed which takes into consideration the human element in industry, the workers will not be found clamoring for the application of any system so scientifically cruel as those now being thrust upon them. The surest way to prevent the installation of any of these systems is by perfecting and strengthening the trade unions.—The Garment Worker.

NO COMPROMISE ON LABOR LAWS

We know nothing of the magistrate against whom Labor Commissioner Doherty is proceeding, and we know little of the facts in the case; but we can assure Mr. Doherty that the great body of right-thinking Virginians will uphold his every effort to enforce the labor laws.

It is a shame that children ever have to work, a shame that they are denied the one playtime of life, a shame that our laws must ever make exceptions. But experience has shown that many children from 12 to 14 years of age are better off in industry that in idleness. Where the home is one of absolute poverty or hopeless shame, or both, and where the children will not be sent to school, the prohibition of the law must be relaxed—sometimes from necessity, sometimes from expediency.

But the provision for labor permits in such cases should not, and must not, be abused. The public officer who is given this discretion should exercise it as does the mayor of Richmond—only when need is compelling and thorough investigation has been made. The responsibility is too great, and the possible consequences too disastrous for laxness or unconcern.

When it comes to children under twelve years of age the prohibition should be binding, inflexible and inexorable. We grind men's bones in the mills; we wear away womanhood in the factories, and we call it industry; we frown on laws that deny a man seven days of toil the week; we demand that he may stand at his task till he drops, and we call this personal liberty. But we are not so base as to harness our babes to treadmills, so grasping as to permit the child of twelve to work in the factory. We have not forgotten that play is the royal prerogative of youth and if we draw the line for exceptional cases at twelve and throw down the bars at fourteen, we will not as a people permit the laws to be set at naught. If the Suffolk magistrate or any other magistrate or any mayor has knowingly allowed a child younger than twelve years to work, he should be held up to public scorn; if he or any other official has not investigated cases where the age of the child was open to doubt, he should be removed. There must be no compromise.

Our child-labor laws are not satisfactory, vastly improved though they are. Reform is needed, badly needed. If any man doubt it, let him come downtown some morning at 6:30, or go home on certain car lines after 6 o'clock. The faces he sees in the car will plead for better laws. Weary-eyed young girls—children they really are—are on their way to the factories before most worthy men are awakened. Their faces are thin, their young forms are emaciated, their whole manner one of impotent despair. Ignorance, joy denied, hardship, long, long hours of nerve-racking work—how can humanity shut its eyes to the crime?—Richmond (Va.) News-Leader.

GIFTS FROM CONVICTS

The statement that the inmates of the Waupun state prison have subscribed enough money, $67, to buy one acre of land for the Wisconsin Home and Farm school at Dousman, and have already paid in more than half the amount, means more than meets the eye. It is an eloquent reminder of the essential human brotherhood latent in men too frequently ranked as outcasts, and an earnest desire (touching enough under the circumstances) to provide for boys still young enough to be at the turning point a better chance than they had themselves. The farm school is a place that gives boys their chance. The clean country air that makes for moral and physical health, the acquaintance with soils, crops, and animals without which no man can be a successful farmer, the exchange of submission to authority for the rebellious gang spirit, all are such salutary influences on the delinquent boy that unless he is sub-moral or has an aptitude for crime, a training at the Dousman school will turn him out with as fair a prospect of making a useful citizen as the average boy, who has never been a transgressor at all.

Society is working now on the assumption that a convict is not only a human being but a being with possibilities still before him. Many of the most galling restrictions in prison life, the lockstep, shackles, silence at meals, are being remitted for the better class of prisoners, those who give promise of amendment. At the federal penitentiary in Georgia small tables, seating eight men each, have replaced the long tables with benches. At San Quentin and Folsom honor convicts are permitted to shed the stripes and don a garb that is no brand of disgrace. In a word, rational, well-directed efforts are making to instill hope and to keep alive that precious quality, self-respect.

Though there is among criminals, it must be admitted, a residuum of the incorrigible, yet the majority are amendable to treatment that aims at restoring them to the state of self-respecting manhood. To the truth of this there could be no more persuasive evidence than the impulse that prompted these men who are paying a penalty to help save those younger than themselves, lads who still have life before them, from the pains and penalties that following wrongdoing.—Milwaukee Free Press.

TO COMBAT WHITE PLAGUE.

Washington, May 16.—Insurance against tuberculosis for the relief of victims of this dread disease was recommended at a conference of tuberculosis secretaries in this city. It was shown that in England and Germany the insurance scheme was tried with success. It is a governmental institution. The State, employer and employe all contribute to the premiums. As in those countries, it is proposed that men and women in shops, stores and factories here be so insured against the disease that in case of infection they will have ample means for treatment and all necessaries of life until they are able to resume earning their own living.

IDEALS NECESSARY

Nothing is so practical as the ideal. The ideal is the basis of the practical, the prophecy of the practical, the creator of the practical. The ideal has molded the world from barbarism to semi-civilization and will mold it to a civilization worthy the name. It is the power that molds men and women and institutions and nations, as a potter molds his clay. Every book and every nation was an ideal before it was a fact, and became a fact because of the creative power of the ideal.—Prof. Frank Parson.

LABOR'S POSITION ON ANTI-TRUST LAW HELD TO BE SOUND

President Wilson is said to be in favor of subjecting trades unions to the provisions of the Sherman law against combination in restraint of trade. It is proposed that the unions shall not be subject to injunction for such action as may restrain trade. A strike or a boycott may be punished just as the organization of a trust in business. This proposal is supported by the contention that the law should bear upon all people alike, upon the labor-striker as upon the engrosser and forestaller of commodities or the railroad combineer. To exempt the unions would be, it is said, to grant them a special privilege. All of which sounds and looks good, but is it?

A labor union has no special privilege bestowed by the State. It hasn't even a charter. Corporations have advantages as such. They are creatures of the State and subject to regulation. Labor unions are not formed to make profits. They are formed to prevent the lowering of wages, even more than to further the raising of wages. That the unions seek a labor monopoly in restraint of trade is not true. Their end is not monopoly of work but proper pay for the work the workers perform. And it must not be forgotten that back of the labor union is the laboring man. That man has a right to himself. He has a right to work or not work as he pleases and if he withholds his work he is not restraining anybody's trade or commerce. If he prevents another man from working that is something more than an offense against the Sherman act, if it is anything. He can be punished for it as crime or misdemeanor, under other laws, but he should not be punished by penalties for ignoring injunctions ex parte. The contention of union labor leaders that unions should be exempt from the operation of the injunction provisions of the Sherman act is, in my opinion, a sound one. It is a contention based upon the workingman's right to his own labor. The inclusion of labor unions under the new act is not necessary. If they violate that law they usually lay themselves open to prosecution for more serious violations of law.

Clearly the Sherman anti-trust law was not meant to apply to combinations of labor. That law was and is directed against combinations of corporations. There is no question of equality under that law as between privileged corporations and united workers. Surely no sane person wants the Sherman act used to force a man to work for some one he doesn't want to work for. That's what the application of the Sherman act to union labor would amount to. Organized labor hasn't anything belonging to all the people entitling the government to regulate it, beyond compelling it to keep the peace. But the big corporations have governmental privileges, special favors, and government rightly regulates them. A labor organization that might be subject to action under the proposed law would be subject to more drastic action for grosser offenses first. And this consideration alone makes it plain that the Sherman act was never intended to apply to union labor. The exemption of organized labor would be no privilege at all. What labor organization aims at and what combinations and trusts aim at are entirely different things. The one seeks only to see that the laborer gets his proper hire. The other seeks to gouge labor of its share of what it produces. The President should favor the labor exemption, because if he does not the Sherman act will be made the means to prevent the workingman from bettering his pay or the conditions under which he shall earn that pay.—Reedy's Mirror.

THE FORD INNOVATION

John A. Fitch, in writing for The Survey, after an investigation, writes upon "Ford of Detroit," in part, upon the production of the plant and what men do who "work for Ford," as follows:

"It's all true—this story that you have read in the papers, the Ford Motor Company is going to split twenty million dollars even, with its employes. The announced minimum wage of $5 a day has gone into effect and it is being paid. The eight-hour day has been installed and the entire plant is working in three shifts. Fifteen thousand men at a single leap have caught up with that famous old sprinter, High Cost of Living, and within the next few months 4,000 more will have drawn up abreast of him. It is a situation that has left everybody dazed. There is no single or easy explanation of it, but if you walk through the Ford plant, as I did week before last, you will see some of the things that make it possible.

"'They don't just produce automobiles at Ford's,' a man in another Detroit automobile factory remarked, 'they spew them out.' Fifteen thousand men work in gangs on the track system. Each gang and each man in each gang, has just one small thing to do—and to do over and over again. It's push and hustle and go. The man behind may shove his work along to you at any moment—you must not hold him back; at any moment the man in front may be ready for another piece to work on—he must not be kept waiting.

"Up one line and down another goes a continual stream of motor parts in process of assembling. One man fits the parts together so that the bolt holes comes right. The next man slips the bolts into place. The next has a pan of nuts before him and all day long he scoops them up and with his fingers starts them on the thread of the bolts. The next man has a wrench and he gives them the final twist that makes them tight.

"Over in another part of the great factory there are four or five parallel tracks. On every track are a dozen automobiles in all stages of being put together. Each is slowly moving from one end to the other, and—like a snowball rolling down hill—gathering itself together as it travels, until with a snort and a whir it dashes out at the door on its own power.

"The last of these tracks is formed by moving belts. Without a stop from start to finish the machine moves steadily forward on the belt and either sitting on different parts of it or walking alongside for a moment, each man adds the bolt, or gives a turn to the screw for which he is responsible. One fellow has to lie on his back underneath and hammer away at something. He has a little platform on wheels to support him and with a bent rod he 'hitches on' the front axle. 'Bing'—'bang,' instantly he lets go and drops back to hitch on to the next machine.

"Piled up along the way are the different parts, each to be added as the growing machine passes by. Each man does his part and gives it a shove. First, to a mere skeleton of a frame, two men attach the rear axle. They fasten it in haste and give it a push—some one else will tighten the bolts. Three men seize it and in a moment the front axle is in place and the four wheels put on. It's easier to move now; a touch sends it on to another gang of three, who put on the truss rods and tighten things up all around.

"Another shove, and it goes to where a motor is dangling from chains, directly over the track. A word from some one and down comes the motor to its place, the bolts go in and on goes the machine. Then comes the steering gear, and the control levers—on again, and from overhead a hose is pulled down and a gallon of gasoline squirted into the tank. One more shove and the rear wheels drop into a slot where there are rapidly revolving pulleys. The wheels begin to whirl—the motor starts—a man seats himself on the tank, grasps the wheel and cuts loose, and with a snort and a cough, out the door they go. What was, ten minutes ago, a pile of rods and gears and lifeless steel is now thrilling with power. A car came through that door every twenty-four seconds Saturday morning, January 24. One hundred and fifty cars were turned out between 8 and 9 o'clock that morning, 140 in the next hour, 163 in the next, and 152 between 11 and 12—605 completed automobiles in four hours.

"In 1912, with 15,000 men operating the plant eighteen hours a day, there were produced 185,000 automobiles. In 1914, with 19,000 men working in three shifts twenty-four hours a day, it is proposed to turn out 300,000 cars. No other plant in America turns out half as many. Probably no other plant produces even a third as many. The present hourly record in the Ford plant for the assembling of motors just about equals the daily record of Detroit's next biggest plant. Up to Saturday morning, January 24, there had been run out of the Ford shops a total of 429,246 cars.

"Stand outside and watch the door where they come chugging through—the stream seems endless. Three a minute they come and career around the yard just to prove that they can go. It is scarcely believable that a few minutes ago they were inanimate and still!

"It would be a deadly thing to work ten hours straight, in so specialized a plant. Think of shoving bolts into holes and doing nothing else all day! It may be fine to see an automobile come dashing through that door every twenty seconds—but you don't see them if your job is to start the nuts on the threads. You haven't time. There are always more bolts to be capped. What satisfactory answer is there in modern industry for a situation of such deadly monotony but a short work day and a chance for living in a rounded way after work hours? Henry Ford, with all his genius, has not found any other answer. But he has found that one, and put it into execution."

"FAST WORK INJURIOUS TO WOMEN"

"There are about 5,000,000 women engaged in gainful occupations in the United States," said Prof. Edward A. Ross, University of Wisconsin, in an address before the Milwaukee Social Economics club. "This number is increasing much more rapidly than is the general population. The reason women in such great numbers are coming into our shops is not because they are impatient with the walls of home, but because the factory has invaded the home and snatched out almost every useful task that used to be performed there. There still remains in the home the preparing of food and the rearing of children.

"It is important to remember that of this large number of women many of them are young ones. About one-third of the single women between fifteen and twenty-five in the country are engaged in occupations outside their homes; in the city about 50 per cent; so that nearly half of the single women in the country are at work. Between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-five about one-fifth of the number are so engaged. That means that their lives are changed when they marry and enter homes, the conditions of which are shaped by affection.

"During the interval that they are out earning money they are under conditions not shaped by anybody who has any interest in them. They go up against the rivalry of employers for profit. They, who do not know what protection is, must protect themselves. Girls between seventeen and twenty will possibly strike for higher wages, but are they aware of what that breathless rush is doing for them? They are not competent guardians of their future life.

"These women who are to become wives and mothers in the future are increasing in numbers at the same time that the conditions under which they work are becoming more taxing. There is a certain natural pace one can keep up. Force the pace and you get weariness. Sewing machines that in 1899 set 2,200 stitches a minute were in 1905 setting just twice that number. Some machines set several rows of stitches at a time. There is a decided tendency toward the double-quick. There seems but one thing to do, and that is to compensate for this superhuman pace by shortening the time. A certain pace may be endured through an eight-hour day that cannot be endured for the ten-hour day. Unless the working girl is extraordinarily strong, standing at a rate dictated by machinery at high speed, she is draining stamina and vitality which should be saved to enable her to meet successfully the strains and burdens of wifehood and motherhood.

"Health and vitality are capital to the laborer. Breaking them down is waste; it is eating up capital. Whatever human wreckage is created by this excessive haste and these excessive hours of industry is not borne by industry that created it, but is rolled onto the broad shoulders of society. The result is a progeny that does not start in life with a fair chance. Society can have the kind of women it wants. It can have a race of strong women—but this cannot be brought about by individual action nor by appealing to the humanity of the employers. Organized society expressing itself in law is the only remedy."

RESOLVE.

By GEORGE MATTHEW ADAMS.

The Positive Forces in life are always the Ruling forces. The only time Negative Forces come in, as of use, is when they oppose the Positive Forces. Daily Resolve, but also—

Act.

Just as fast as the Negative Forces push forward — within yourself—Resolve to meet them and to conquer them. For the only way you will ever be able to grow will be in overcoming blocks that are sure to be ever lying in wait for you. Make your Resolutions count.

Act.

There are few hours within the thinking and living moments of our lives in which we are not opposed in some way or other. Resolve, Hourly—with determined Courage—Resolve.

Act.

For every Resolve is an Uplift—for every powerful and useful ability that you have. The more you Resolve—and Act—the bigger things you become Capable of Resolving against—and the bigger and greater everything in life becomes. But remember that the most useful Resolve is to—

Act.

THE SAME OLD STORY

The causes which are responsible for present conditions in the Colorado mining district are not new. It is the same old story of refusal to accept the principle of collective bargaining in dealings with work people.

"If any of our employes have grievances," says Mr. Rockefeller, "our managers will gladly hear them, and they will be adjusted according to the justice of the case."

And who will be the judge of the justice of the case? Why, the mine manager, of course. And what can the employe do if dissatisfied with the verdict? He can quit.

But the men do not want to quit. They want to have their grievances adjusted by representatives of their organizations in conference with representatives of the company, and they would prefer to remain at work while negotiations are pending. They want to be placed on something like an equal footing with the other party to the controversy. That is fair, isn't it? To accomplish this they maintain an organization; and in this they are strictly within their rights, aren't they?

But Mr. Manager, upheld by the absentee director, says he won't recognize the union. Which mean that the men can come up humbly on the carpet one by one and plead for better conditions, with no alternative but to accept the decision as final.

The men then decide to quit work in a body—to strike. It is either this or submission, and men do not like to submit to injustice. The company imports strike-breakers, for the most part made up of the roughest of rough-necks. The State militia is called in to "protect the company's property"—which probably would not need protection if the troops had not been called. All these things are calculated to engender a spirit of resentment among the strikers, and they do some things they should not do. They are human and their provocation is great. One act of violence leads to another. The troops usually are over-zealous in their desire to protect the interests of the company and this attitude kindles the flames which leads to a state of civil war.

Now, Just Judge, place the responsibility. Could not all this have been avoided with a little diplomacy in the first instance, a little more regard for the rights of men, and a frank acceptance of their right to organize? We await your verdict.—W. T. Luce, in Topeka Capital.

EXTENDS LABOR BUREAU SYSTEM

Detroit, May 16.—State Labor Commissioner Cunningham will ask the next legislature for power to enlarge the present labor bureau system by having county supervisors establish labor bureaus that will co-operate with the state bureau. Several months ago the state official wrote to all county clerks in Michigan asking them to aid his department in finding work for the unemployed. Forty-five responded to the request and they have since kept the commissioner informed as to the demand for labor in their vicinity. The success of this movement has encouraged the commissioner to urge the enlargement of the plan.

SCHEMING EMPLOYERS

There are many employers who devote a part of their time to concocting schemes for shackling their employes in order that they may be the more timid, docile and subservient. The scheme most commonly practiced with this end in view is that of selling a few shares of stock in the business to employes with the assurance that the employer is much interested in the welfare of his subordinates and wishes them in this way to share in the profits of the industry. This plan is calculated to operate to the benefit of the employer in a double capacity—by inducing the worker to work harder and reducing his desire to engage in efforts for improvements in wages and working conditions for all employes. It is the endeavor, in selecting the stockholding members of the force, to pick out those who are likely to wield some influence upon their fellows, and thus persuade them by argument and fear to refrain from agitating or voting for improvements in their unions.

Just how this scheme works out for the poor dupes of employes was very aptly illustrated in a recent instance in this city. Two employe stockholders stayed at work, just as the employers had anticipated they would when the union called them out. The employers, after getting these poor fools in as stockholders, decided to conduct an "open shop" establishment and the union proceeded to tighten up the screws even though the two men had failed to respond to the strike call.

The union interested has a system of mortuary benefits graduated according to length of membership as well as an old-age pension system which requires twenty years of continuous membership to qualify. Both of the stockholders were qualified for the $500 death benefit and the old-age pension of $5 per week. Both were expelled from membership, thus forfeiting all benefits. After eight days of struggle the "open-shop" employers were completely defeated by the union and entered into an agreement to conduct a union establishment and sacrificed the two stockholder fools who had allowed themselves to be misled by the soft words and glowing promises of the scheming employers.

The instance cited above is only one of the many that yearly occur, but it is sufficient to illustrate just how much consideration the average welfare working employer has for the poor dupe of a working man when he has him in his greedy clutches.

When will the union men and women come to a realization that their union are worth a thousand times more t them than are the empty promises o greedy employers? It is, of course, tru that the real unselfish trade unionis never gets caught in such a trap, because if a strike is called he goes wit the union even though he does hold stoc in the unfair concern. He is willing t sacrifice the little the stock would brin him rather than betray his fellow workers by remaining at work in a struc establishment. Not so, however, with th wage-worker who is just as greedy a his boss, and who only lacks the opportunity to become just as vicious slave driver, he gets caught in th clutches of the designing employe through the medium of his own greed and is entitled to very little sympath because of this fact.

It pays always to be loyal to principle The man who joins a union and the violates his pledge of loyalty is not eve respected by those who profit by his disloyalty, because they fully realize tha a man who will betray his fellows i not an honest man and will not hesitat to betray and defraud them as soon a the opportunity offers. It is becaus employes have so often demonstrated thi truth that we marvel that even the gree of a wage-worker can at this late da drive him to commit such a blunder a to remain in the employ of an unfai firm when his fellow workers have gon out in the interest of fair dealing. Bu it does seem the more some people ar humbugged the more easily they ar taken in by the crafty manipulators wh use their crooked heads for the purpos of acquiring the fool's money. The seem always to anticipate that they wi fare better in the next betrayal, and thu become easy prey for all men who ar without the elements of honesty and desire by hook or crook to gain unfair advantage in the struggle for existence.

After all the warning the labor movement has issued, the trade union member who gets caught in the meshes o the alleged benevolently inclined employer is indeed to be ranked among th stupidest of stupid, and the easiest o the easy in the ranks of gullible fools To sympathize with such a man is o a parity with weeping over the fact tha a vicious murderer has been apprehende after killing an innocent victim for th few paltry dollars that might be extracted from his pockets. One is a much entitled to pity as the other.—Sa Francisco Labor Clarion.

RAISING WORKMEN'S STANDARDS

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen. It is doing it first through the labor press. Probably no force is greater in the development of the cause, and to no one feature is organized labor more indebted than to the labor press of the country. With its record of progress, its constant urging to better things through active propaganda methods, its lessons in technical training, thus making of its readers better workmen, its appeal to better living, its earnest attention to the family life and welfare—these are some of the factors which make of the labor press a power for good.

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen by fighting the battles of all the people. It is carrying with it even the lowest and most degraded. Every victory won for the men and women at the top means a higher level for those lower down. While the trade unionist may, for a time belong to the aristocracy of labor, he soon makes of that aristocracy a democracy for all.

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen by compelling them to think rapidly and to speak clearly. The trade union movement has developed a company of speakers who are abundantly able to present the cause of the toilers. This is constantly being demonstrated at the national meetings of labor bodies, where statesmanship of the highest order is demanded, and where some of the addresses would easily rank with the best that are delivered in the conferences and conventions of other national bodies.

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen by the education of its members in special meetings and lecture courses, and in supplying special courses of study. The possibilities in such work are almost limitless.

Organized labor is raising the standards of workingmen by Americanizing the immigrant. No organization is doing more in this direction, according to a recent report of the United States Commission of Labor. It is on the alert to elevate, in every way possible, the general welfare of those who are bearing the burdens of the world's work. Its task has just begun. There remains yet much to be accomplished, but unquestionably it will rapidly eliminate such features as stand in the way of its highest development, and push aggressively for the standards which should be attained by every honest toiler.—International Molders' Journal.

OPPOSE SCHOOL "FRATS"

The Boards of Education of Atlantic City and of Ithaca, N. Y., have declared war on high school fraternities. In Atlantic City unless 70 per cent of the members sign pledges at once to withdraw from the "frats," every student will be compelled to sign a statement that he does not belong to one of the proscribed societies or suffer expulsion for his refusal.

In Ithaca the proscription does not go into effect until the opening of school next fall. At that time assent to a pledge will be a prerequisite to admission.

The pledge reads:

"I, the undersigned, a student of the Ithaca High School, hereby assert and declare, upon my word of honor, that I am not a member of any society, fraternity, or sorority, composed of high school students, either local in character or affiliated with similar organizations of students in other high schools or academies, and I promise not to become a member of such a society during the time I remain a member of this school."

In both cities there is much opposition to the order among the students and their parents, but both the Boards of Education and the faculties of the schools are a unit in declaring that it is demanded for the good of the schools and that it will be enforced to the letter.

A majority of educators agree that fraternities in high schools are detrimental to school life; that they are subversive to discipline, destructive of democracy, build up cliques and foster a spirit of narrow and sectional politics which finally becomes more important in the minds of the fraternity members than the acquisition of an education. The high school frat is an outgrowth of the college frat, but it has not the same excuse for existence because the high school students are all residents in the same community, all live at home and are in no way dependent upon fraternity life for social intercourse and congenial comradeship.

The public school system is the corner-stone of democracy and it should be kept free from a system that tends to encourage a foolish sort of aristocracy and a feeling of exclusiveness among a certain few of the pupils.—Newark Evening News.

FIRST STEPS IN ALASKA

Under newly defined and broadly conceived statutory power conceded to it by congress, the executive arm of the United States government is proceeding to guard the interest of future settlers in Alaska. Prior to leasing and sale of lands under conditions that mean greater revenue for the treasury and less exploitation of coming citizens, the government is providing for permanent retention of sites sure to be needed for military reservations, official headquarters and the like. Land is not to be given away and then bought back at the taxpayers' expense. Nor is this all. Where towns or cities are almost certain to exist as the result of access to water, fuel or mineral and timber wealth, land is to be protected from purchase by individuals with speculative intent. The territorial authorities will hold the land for ultimate settlers and define terms of purchase.

Here is an admirable chance to experiment with newer forms of establishing land titles, of taxing real property, and of putting into the treasury the community's rightful share of those increased values always accompanying segregation of people. It is by these first administrative acts in harmony with the Magna Charta of Alaskan freedom that settlers already on the ground are, we think, bound to judge the sort of enforcement that is to be accorded the new law.

If Secretary Lane and the president have their way in Alaska as effectively as they expect, it may come to pass that the territory will educate the nation in the possibilities of expert control of natural resources for democratic ends. Alaska, not many years ago either was headed straight for a process of domination and exploitation by individuals and by corporations whose desires too often have virtually been law in some of the western states. Few more concrete proofs can be given of the triumph of conservation than the decade has to show in Alaskan political and economic history. And such history, of course, is written at Washington by lawmakers and by administrators who are sensitive to popular desires and demands.—Christian Science Monitor.

HOW UNIONISM PAYS

It doesn't take a very acute mathematician to prove by figures that "don't lie" the fact that membership in a labor union is the very best kind of an investment.

The biennial wage scale report of the International Typographical union has just been published. Data used in compiling this interesting document was furnished by officers of 622 subordinate unions throughout the jurisdiction, and is as near accurate as painstaking care and a system of extending over several years can be perfected.

It is shown that since the preceding report in 1912 very little change has been made in the hours of labor, eight hours being universally conceded. What few changes have occurred affected newspaper work, where the tendency is to decrease the hours on morning papers.

In the advancement of wage scales the progress shown is marvelous, and cannot help but excite the admiration of organized labor generally, and proves the efficacy of united effort. Based on the collections for old-age pensions, the year ending May 31, 1913, showed average earnings for the entire active membership of $1,022.92 per year.

During the two years covered by the report 35,000 members, or about one-half the enrollment, secured wage increases of from 50 cents to $6 per week.

It is found by the tabulated figures that the wage increase for union printers has been $49,532.72 per week, or $2,592,351.44 per year. And during the two years considered less than $8,600 was expended for strike purposes, because there were no strikes to create expense.

There were not many business institutions or investments that made a profit during the financial stringency of the past year. Still the members of this great industrial institution went right along getting their dividends in increased wages and improved conditions.—Duluth Labor World.

COLORADO'S MINE WAR

Whoever thinks that he is strong enough at this age of the world to conduct a great business clothed more or less with a public interest, without recognizing union labor, has another think coming. This the Rockefellers will find out before very long. To say that recognition of the union is one question, and the rate of wages is another, is to quibble miserably. The world knows that union labor keeps up wages and will continue to be about the only power that does so, as long as we permit monopoly of natural resources. Only the fear of the strike will loosen the monopolists' grip on that part of his graft he grudgingly yields to labor. Union labor is often tyrannical, we all know. Often it is unwise. Always it brings not peace but a sword, but for all that it is the only means whereby the worker can force from the exploiter a small part of those earnings of the worker which are appropriated and absorbed by the exploiter. The Colorado strike is war. There is no disguising that fact, but it is war with the monopolists seducing the State into alliance with those against the real producers of wealth. The State should keep the peace, but it should punish monopolists for refusing concessions conducive to peace as it punishes workers goaded into violence. The power of the State should not be always on the side of the monopolist, even to the extent of authorizing mine owners and others to equip and maintain private armies of thugs and crooks. The strikers in Colorado are part of the people who own the Colorado mines. The Rockefellers do not own the minerals in the land and cannot own the land. They don't own a monopoly of the right to work, dispensing it to whom they please, on their own terms. The workers have as much right—no, they have more right to say how the lands shall be worked than have the Rockefellers. Yet the Rockefellers set up in opposition to that right, their ownership of the earth upon which the workers seek work. They have the State to shoot down those who want to work upon livable terms. For that the United States cannot stand. The Rockefellers must recognize the other men who own the mines the Rockefellers hold. They must come to terms of peace. They can't get out of the difficulty by saying they will grant wage demands but will not recognize the unions. If recognition of unions were not a wage question, unions would be recognized without difficulty anywhere. The Rockefellers must be brought to terms for inciting to peace disturbance. And in due course mineral resources must be taken out of the hands of private monopoly and made public property.—Reedy's Mirror.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NECESSARY

By EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN,

McVickar Professor of Political Economy, Columbia University.

In the face of the deplorable conditions of civil war in Colorado, the general public stands confused and irresolute. Amid the clash of weapons and the exaggerated claims of both sides, there are, however, certain undeniable facts to which attention ought in this crisis to be directed.

The demands of the miners which led to the strike were seven in number.

1. The eight-hour day.
2. Pay for narrow and dead work.
3. A check weighman without interference of company officials.
4. The right to trade in any store they pleased.
5. The abolition of the criminal guard system.
6. Ten per cent advance in wages.
7. Recognition of the union.

Of these seven demands five are guaranteed under severe penalty by the laws of the State of Colorado. It is claimed by the union that had these laws been enforced there would never have been any strike. Whether or not this be so, is it not a remarkable commentary on the state of American civilization that individuals should be compelled to resort to a strike in order to enforce a series of laws which it is the obligation of the employers to obey and of the State to enforce? That these laws were habitually and persistently disregarded is claimed by the unions and is virtually substantiated by official statements in the reports of the factory inspectors in Colorado.

The attempt of the operators to defend some of these extra-legal practices is far from ingenious. Thus, we are told that in one of the mining camps only 22 per cent of the wages of the men were expended in the company's stores; but we are not told what happened in all the other camps; nor that according to our Federal statistics the average expenditure for food of a workman receiving $1,200 a year is 36 per cent of his wages—so that even in this single camp the company's stores swallowed about two-thirds of a miner's average expenditure for goods ordinarily bought at such stores; nor are we told that such company stores have universally earned the name of "pluck-me" stores and have everywhere else fallen under the ban of enlightened public opinion.

It is claimed by the operators that this is a fight against the closed shop, whereas in reality it is a fight against the recognition of the union. The two things are by no means the same. The closed shop means that none but union men may be employed; the recognition of the union means that the employers should consent to discuss matters of common interest with the representatives of the union. Under conditions of complete freedom these would normally in a short time represent most of the workers. If any of the workers, however, desire to remain out of the union, the favorable conditions obtained by the union representatives would nevertheless apply to them. The existing protocol in the clothing industry in New York shows that the recognition of the union does not necessarily imply a closed shop. The solicitude of the coal operators is ostensibly in behalf of the "free" laborer. It is really against the union laborer. At bottom it is a contest between individual and collective bargaining. Experience has shown that the individual "free" laborer ordinarily stands but slight chance of redress, and that progress has come only through the substitution of collective bargaining.—New York Annalist.

HOW MEN RISK THEIR LIVES

There are no brass bands to remind the government's mine rescue men who are hunting for the 172 miners in the Eccles mine tomb that they are heroes. Dying or narrowly escaping death is part of the day's job with them.

The married men write farewell postcard notes to their wives and the single ones to their sweethearts and mothers when they start on their mission underground.

The government pays them from $1,500 to $1,800 a year, and when one of them dies on the job, the government gives his widow a full year's salary.

They were the first to penetrate into the mysteries of the underground tomb at Eccles. All night they worked, surrounded by sprawling dead men. In the morning they came to the open air for a bite of breakfast and then went back among the dead.

How many of the dead there were they could not tell; they estimated that they had seen more than fifty bodies. Many are no doubt covered by debris. The dead were not moved, for the rescuers wanted to make sure first that there were no living who needed care.

They took a canary bird with them. The bird began to droop in the foul air when they had traveled 1,000 feet with it. And all at once it tumbled sideways and died. The men knew they were standing on the threshold of death. The door was open. They put on their oxygen helmets and walked in.

There was water in the mine to the knees. A veteran rescuer stumbled. He dashed his hand into the water. It touched a dead man. There was not much time to be given to the dead. They were listening for sounds; they were looking for chalk marks on the walls such as imprisoned miners some times make. They were hunting for tracks in the soggy dust where the water had receded.

They found footprints and they followed them. They led back to the shaft and from the shaft into the main airway. Mutely these marks told the story of one of the many tragedies that had taken place.

They showed that a miner had run ahead of the blast to the shaft where he hoped to find an exit. Failing, he had retraced his steps and had fallen as he ran.

After hours in the mine they traveled only 2,000 feet and there were miles and miles of passageway to explore. Each foot of progress meant a fight with debris piled high and twisted tightly.

They found three iron coal cars that had been blown by the explosion from different parts of the mine and had come together with such impact that they were tightly interlocked.

In some places the roofs of entries had fallen and blocked the path. They dug through with picks and shovels, sustaining themselves from the oxygen tanks as they toiled.

Once they heard a sound like tapping. They followed it and found that the noise was made by pieces of coal falling from the mine roof into the water. Nowhere was there a sign of life.

Everywhere were dead men in grotesque positions, and dead men stretched as though in profound sleep. Some seemed not to have been injured, but died as they worked from the overpowering gas.

And the rescuers, feeling their heads throbbing like under a hammer, realized that the air was getting them and that their oxygen was running low, so they went back to the top for a breath of fresh air. Then they returned to the foul air of the mine.

No insurance company will take a chance on the life of a government mine rescuer.—United Press Dispatch.

LABOR WAGES REPORTED.

Washington, May 16.—Millwork carpenters are the only workmen of the principal trades who have not had an increase in wages in the last year, according to a report issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The bureau estimates that on May 15 the average wage of workmen in the principal trades will be considerably higher than on May 15, 1913. Marble-setters have enjoyed the greatest increase, receiving wages 6.6 per cent higher in 1914 than in 1913. Bricklayers' wages increased 1.7 per cent; carpenters, 1.7 per cent; hodcarriers, 1.2 per cent; painters, 4.2 per cent; plasterers, 1 per cent; plumbers and gasfittters, 3.1 per cent; structural ironworkers, 2.6 per cent; stonecutters, 2.2 per cent; iron molders, 2.6 per cent, and newspaper compositors, 2.1 per cent. Thirty-four trades show a reduction in hours in 1914 compared with 1913, and twenty-eight show no change, and one trade shows an increase.

NEW YORK STRIKERS WIN.

New York, May 16.—After a fourteen weeks' strike the Fur Dressers and Fur Floor Workers' unions have won their demands. The floor workers have been granted an increase of $1 per week, and the fur dressers have been given an increase of 5 per cent the first year, 7 1-2 per cent the next year, and 10 per cent the third year, together with complete union conditions. The wage question for the fur floor workers can be re-opened after the first year. A. F. of L. Organizer Frayne and his associates rendered every possible assistance in these wage movements, which have resulted in pronounced advances.

TO ORGANIZE CLERKS.

Richmond, Ind., May 16.—Officers of the Retail Clerks' International Protective Association are meeting with success in organizing the clerks of this city. It is said that many of the business men favor the plan, which would result in standardizing the working hours.

START ON NEW SCHEDULE.

Fall River, Mass., May 16.—The carpenters are giving credit to their thorough organization for the failure to abrogate their agreement with the Master Builders' association, which was favored by certain contractors. As a result, the workers are now enjoying a 1-cent an hour increase and a Saturday half holiday. This agreement was entered into last year, and runs for three years.

PROBES MINERS' STRIKE.

Fort Smith, Ark., May 16.—For the first time in the history of this state, officials connected with the labor department are investigating causes that led to a strike. Commissioner of Labor Clary is conducting an inquiry in the differences between the mine workers and the Bache-Denman company, which is charged with violating its agreement and attempting to establish the non-union shop.

ASK BETTER CONDITIONS.

Boston, May 16.—Several employers have granted the request of Ice Wagon Drivers and Helpers union for a standard wage and a working rules agreement. The scale calls for an increase of about $2 a week, recognition of the union, and holidays off, except when they come on Saturday or Monday. These workers also ask that their work in the stables, after delivering ice, be cut down.

RETURN TO WORK.

Albany, N. Y., May 16.—Striking teamsters have returned to work, both employers and themselves agreeing to submit all differences to a board of arbitration, which will consider wages, working conditions, and the time for the presentation of an agreement and the time it is to take effect. It is said that both sides favor the establishment of a board that will adjust future disputes.

OUR TRADE UNIONS MAINTAIN AND PERPETUATE LIBERTY

Great stress is placed by the operators of the Colorado coal field on the fact that we insist on the operators recognizing representatives chosen by their employes, whose business would be to lay before the managements representing the companies the men's side of any controversy that might arise; to bargain with representatives of the employers for wages and conditions of employment.

The operators claim that they have yielded every other point excepting this one, and the wage raise demanded.

To a casual observer it would seem strange that the men on strike so insistently demand recognition through their organization; have suffered the rigors of a Colorado winter, with no shelter but their flimsy tents; have gladly consented to live on the pitifully inadequate strike benefits the organization has been able to afford them: are still willing to suffer privations, they and those dependent on them, for this one special demand.

But we, who have worked in mines where no law exists but the arbitrary will of the representatives of the company, understand fully why these brave men and women hold out so faithfully for that one great principle.

We know, as they have learned through bitter experiences, that none of the promises made by the company, that not even the laws of the state, placed on the statutes for the protection of their lives, have ever been fulfilled or observed, nor will they be fulfilled or observed, unless they, the miners, can show by their united force the power to insist on their just rights.

The conditions that obtain in Southern Colorado today are the natural results of the unrestrained power wielded by the corporations that have so long controlled the coal fields.

That power has been used to absolutely dominate the counties where they operated, politically, and through that domination of the politics of the coal regions they have been able to make or unmake governors of the state, senators and congressmen; their representatives, in the state legislature, elected by their methods of control of the politics of the districts in which they operate, have ever stood in the way of just and equitable laws. Their influence permeates every legislative hall, state, national, county or municipal, and ever for evil.

To be politically free, the miners of Colorado now realize they must have an economic organization, strong and compact enough to protect them in their political rights.

That the laws of the state have been openly violated has been admitted by the operators when they offered, as a concession to the men's demands, their promise "to obey the laws in the future."

We will concede, for the sake of the argument, that those who made that promise intended to abide by it.

Even if such were the case, the men whom they place in charge of their holdings, without the restraint that can only be brought to bear when organized workers determinedly resist wrongs, would be impelled to disregard such promise. Would continue their policy of persecuting the individual who dared to demand the fulfillment of their promises.

The men of Colorado realize that they can have no voice in what shall be their manner of life, their political government, even their homes, their means of education are censored under the despotic rule of the coal companies, while they have no adequate means of protecting their rights.

The state mining laws are a dead letter in counties where only creatures of the operators can be elected to pass on such laws.

And, as a result, the chief inspector of mines was free to admit that upward of two to one was the toll of life demanded in Colorado as compared with organized states. And the government statistics will show that in 1910 the loss of life in Colorado was ten times as great as in the organized districts.

And so, the means of life, the protection of life while working, political freedom, industrial justice, all are embodied in that one demand of the miners: the right to combine with each other, and with their fellow-workers in other states for their own advantage and advancement.—United Mine Workers' Journal.

COLORADO'S OBJECT LESSON

Down at the bottom, what's the real trouble that has caused the labor war in the Colorado coal fields?

Anybody who will examine the Colorado situation carefully and with open mind must come to the conclusion that Colorado and Mexico present a parallel of economic conditions and causes, and that in truth there is a wonderful similarity between conditions in the two communities.

Monopoly of the land and the natural resources is the basis of the trouble in both Mexico and Colorado. Americans in general have in the last three or four years gathered enough information about Mexican conditions to have a reasonably accurate understanding of the conditions in that country. They are able to appreciate that the land of Mexico is held by a comparatively few people, for the purpose of exploitation; and that the control of the land becomes the means through which they are able also to control and exploit the people—the unfortunates who have no land. These are the peons; and the peons object to being thus reduced to the estate of chattels, and revolt.

That is very easily understood. It is a fair statement of conditions as they existed in Ireland under the regime of almost exclusive alien landlordism; as they existed in France before the revolution. It is perfectly plain that such conditions can only lead to social disturbance of a sort absolutely menacing to the security of all society.

Why not, then, a little more accurate appreciation of the fact that these are the same conditions that exist in Colorado? Why not, in view of their existence there, a more intelligent willingness to accept those measures that look to betterment? Why not, in short, a willing acceptance by the public land States, Colorado among them, of the conservation program that would put an end to further monopolization of land and its resources?

Secretary of the Interior Lane has worked out, as a result of the studies and investigations of the last few years, a set of conservation measures that he is fighting desperately to have passed at the present session of Congress. These include:

The Alaskan coal land leasing bill

A general leasing bill for oil, coal and phosphate lands in the United States.

Water power bill dealing with power on the public lands.

Bill for extension of time to settlers on irrigation projects.

The radium bill.

All but one of these measures have been reported from the Public Lands Committee in the House, and two of them have been reported from committee in the Senate. If they can be got-up, they will pass. Of this the greatest confidence is expressed by the men who have taken most interest in behalf of these bills. Why not then?

The answer is that too many men from the Western States, the very ones that have seen labor wars time and again because of these monopolistic conditions, refuse to permit the laws to be passed that would then put to end the bad conditions! It seems difficult to understand such a blind opposition, yet it is the fact. There are indeed some broad visioned Westerners, who appreciate these relationships and know that these measures ought to be passed; but the fact remains that the men from the public land States have constituted the backbone of opposition to this enlightened legislation. They have insisted that it would prevent or hinder development; yet all experience, as with the ranges inside the national forest areas, has proved the contrary. It is much more likely that development would be promoted; and, moreover, that it would be rightly directed development.

Governor West of Oregon, who has had the experience of executive in a public land State, has, in a recent interview, set down the proper view on these matters which might well be brought to the attention of every Senator and Congressman from a State west of the Missouri. He takes up the Colorado mining war, and shows exactly how it has resulted from monopolistic conditions which the old administration of the public lands has promoted. Says Governor West:

"In view of the repeated costly experiences Colorado has had in attempting to adjust differences between labor and the non-resident mine owners, whose only interest is, it seems, to produce dividends, I can't understand the object of her officials in opposing the policies of the present and past Federal Administrations in the matter of leasing coal and oil lands.

"The proposed leasing plan of Secretary of the Interior Lane, while it will permit the fullest development of our coal and oil fields by private capital, is aimed to prevent monopoly by retaining in the Government the title to the property, and providing for State regulation.

"Under the Lane plan, a small royalty is charged upon the output, and in the State of Colorado the royalities on coal alone would in the end amount to over $14,000,000,000, all of which, as it is paid to the Federal Government, would be used for the purpose of reclaiming the arid lands of the West and eventually one-half would be paid to the State.

"Under our past system of disposing outright of such properties, the Rockefellers control our oil supply, and together with other big interests, are aiming to control our copper and our coal.

"With these lessons at hand, the country should be prompt to come to the aid of Secretary of the Interior Lane and assist him in carrying through his program for the future control and disposition of these resources."

These is the simplest possible presentation of the facts. They have been set forth many times in the past, but not always when such emphatic illustration could be had, as now, of the dangerous results flowing from such a bad system of land laws.

The damage has been done, to a considerable extent; but more of it will be done, and conditions will get yet worse in the public land country, unless better laws are passed. The Western States are the very ones that would want these laws if they would understand, and if their real public opinion were represented here in Congress.

Secretary Lane's land and conservation program deserves to be well up at the top of the Administration's program for this session. It is of a good deal more importance than some of the measures that are so insistently urged from the White House and other headquarters of political authority. It should be pushed by liberals and progressives of all parties, utterly without partisan concern, because there is no room for partisanship in such an issue.—Washington (D. C.) Times.

SERVILE LABOR A HINDRANCE

The idea has been expressed many times by employers that the efforts of trade unions to shorten hours and increase wages are barriers to progress in a community, but such an idea cannot be successfully maintained unless a very narrow and unreasonable definition is given the word. If progress is simply held to be population—and this notion prevails in the minds of many employers—then China is the most progressive country in the world.

Trade unionists do not believe that great masses of people, regardless of their character, denote progress nor do they believe that the addition of cheap, unintelligent, servile laborers add to the progress or welfare of a people.

Trade unionists have been taught by stern experience that constant toil unfits a man for valuable productive labor and that the man who works long hours, like the rubber which is always stretched, will not last long; so that when the union shortens hours of labor it becomes an instrument for the progress and improvement of the entire community, even in point of population, rather than a hindrance to it, as some employers seem to believe.

The fact that constant toil, like a cancer, robs the human being of the vitality so essential to progress, cannot be disputed by any man who is a student of industrial conditions.

The unionist contends and maintains that the most valuable asset a country can have is an intelligent, healthy class of wage workers, and intelligence and hours of labor and reasonable pay.

The man who would increase the population by bringing in hordes of unhealthy, ignorant laboring men, simply because they will work long hours for low wages, is not the friend, but the enemy of the community.

The big financier, who has accumulated millions by hiring cheap labor, calls out to the small manufacturer and business men: "Come on, get in; the water is fine," but the merchant who has been foolish enough to heed such advice has invariably found himself drawn out to sea by a resistless current, because cheap labor does not furnish a market for his wares.

The history of unionism in America demonstrates that short hours and good pay give such an impetus to the brain and muscle of the laboring man that he has surpassed the world in efficiency, and is thus enabled, while receiving high wages, to produce many of the necessities of life at a lower cost of production than cheap foreign labor. Therefore, the complaint that unionism interferes with progress is proven to be without foundation.

The cheap, ignorant laborer, it is urged, is easier satisfied, more contented than the unionist, which is in itself an admission that he does not add to the progress of the community, because the man who is contented with his position never achieves much. It is the constant ambition to better himself, to do away with present conditions that makes a man accomplish things for himself and be a factor toward progress.

Nonunionism, with its small pay, long hours, is the mortal enemy of progress.

Unionism with its short hours and fair pay, is the strongest factor in any community for progress.—I. W. Mullen.

LABOR CLEARING HOUSES

It seems a little strange that governments should take as much pains as they do to see that currency is systematically regulated and distributed, and so few pains to see that the labor supply—without which currency wouldn't buy much—is efficiently directed. It is also somewhat pathetic, for men suffer when they are out of work, and dollars do not.

Until very recently the system of labor distribution in the United States has been no system at all. Consequently there have been surpluses of labor at certain times and places, and lack of labor at other times and places, and a great deal of unnecessary unemployment has resulted. There are those who believe that modern industry demands—as a sort of lubricant, perhaps—a certain degree of unemployment, and who maintain that unemployment will not cease until certain alterations have been made. They think they are right, but, whether they are or not, it is certain that unemployment can be diminished immediately by means ready at hand, and, in fact, already in limited use.

A plan proposed by the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations is that there shall be a national bureau of labor exchange, connected with the Department of Labor, and with a central office at Washington, district offices in various parts of the country, and branch offices in the chief cities. The central offices would act as clearing houses, through which labor conditions could be summarized and tabulated for use. The bureau would have jurisdiction over all private employment agencies doing an interstate business, and by co-operation with State bureaus of labor exchange could make it easy for man and job to get together.

The plan will probably be carried out. It is only one of many evidences of the modern disposition to regulate the national household instead of just letting things happen.—San Francisco Bulletin.

IN WHOSE SERVICE?

A remarkable statement was made on the floor of the House of Representatives last week. Mr. Seldomridge, a representative from the state of Colorado, discussing the "Ludlow massacre" of helpless women and children, said:

"One of the difficulties confronting the state when her military power is involved is that which arises from the condition of the state treasury. The militia cannot be put into the field until the governor is provided with means necessary to support and equip it. He is therefore obliged to make some arrangement with the banking and moneyed interests of the state to secure funds in order to meet these expenses.

"The result is that while the armed forces of the state are called out to preserve law and order, and to see that individual rights and property are respected, they are looked upon indirectly as the employed agents and allies of one of the parties to the dispute. This trouble all arises in my judgment, from the fact that when you employ an armed force to preserve law and order in an industrial dispute you immediately provoke conditions such as have arisen in Colorado and elsewhere, especially where such a force is maintained through agencies more or less in sympathy with one of the parties to the controversy. * * *"

Mr. Madden—"Will the gentleman yield to a question?"

Mr. Seldomridge—"Yes."

Mr. Madden—"The gentleman has made a very startling statement. Does the gentleman want to leave the impression on the House and the country that the governor of the state of Colorado sends the militia with the end in view of taking either one side or the other of the controversy, instead of the preservation of the law?"

Mr. Seldomridge—"I do not, Mr. Speaker; and I want to say this—"

Mr. Madden—"That is the only deduction that can be made from the gentleman's statement."

Mr. Seldomridge (continuing). "That the governor of the State, when appealed to by the citizens of the State whose property is in danger or whose lives are in jeopardy, must recognize the power that rests with himself and call out the militia. When the civil authorities say that they can not control the situation and that they must have the militia, the governor is bound to recognize the plea. When he looks into the treasury of the state and finds himself unable to secure funds there to pay the militia, feed, clothe, and equip it, and when he is obliged to intercede with the clearing house of the State to find the money to pay these expenses, does the gentleman believe that men sent into the field under those conditions would be able to exercise that same independence of action that they could if the obligation on the part of the State to private moneyed interests did not exist?"

Representative Foster, chairman of the House committee that has been investigating the strike of the miners in Rockefeller's Colorado mines, protested to the House against "the enormity of this condition."

Mr. Garner—"I do not know that the gentleman wishes to express an opinion at this time before he makes his report, but I should like to know whether he believes the militia are not acting impartially in the enforcement of the law and the protection of life in that country?"

Mr. Foster—"I will give the gentleman this illustration, which is undisputed. I would not mention it except that it has been undisputed. A man who was a mine guard previous to the militia being called into the strike region of Colorado testified on the witness stand in the city of Denver—and he was at the time dressed in the uniform of a state militiamen—that he was a mine guard, belonging to Troop B, of Denver, and being paid at the rate of $3 a day by the mine operators, and was also drawing a salary from the state as a militiaman. You can draw your own conclusions whether that man was an impartial militiaman or not."—La Follette's Weekly.

AN APPEAL

To Organized Labor, Its Friends, and a Sympathetic Public.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 12, 1914.

By instructions of the International Executive Board, United Mine Workers of America, we appeal to you for financial help for the striking miners and their families in Colorado.

Their struggle for social justice and industrial freedom is your struggle. Involved therein is the fight of humanity against oppression and of right against wrong. The slaughter of the women and children at Ludlow, Colorado, on April 20th, ought to appeal to human sympathy in a most extraordinary manner.

Will you aid them financially in their struggle against John D. Rockefeller, Jr., his predatory associates and the interests he represents? The request of the President of the United States through his personal representative that Mr. Rockefeller use his influence in behalf of peace was refused. When he denied the President's request, he assumed to be bigger than the government itself. Shall such a condition be tolerated by a free people? Is Mr. Rockefeller and the interests he represents larger and more powerful than the government of the United States?

We need your help, your sympathy and your support. We appeal to you to respond promptly and liberally and thus place yourself fairly and squarely on the side of all the people as against John D. Rockefeller, Jr., whose name is inseparably associated with Standard Oil.

Send all donations to Wm. Green, 1106 State Life Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.

JOHN P. WHITE, President,
FRANK J. HAYES, Vice President,
WILLIAM GREEN, Secretary-Treasurer.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS VOTING PLACES

The first physical step in straightening out our political derangement is the use of each public schoolhouse as the polling place of its district.

That a good start has been made is evident in the fact that more than 500 school houses throughout the country have already been put to this appropriate use. Seventy school buildings are serving as polling places in Chicago this spring. New York, with 620 public schools and 554 other public buildings, still votes in 413 barber shops as well as many pool rooms, bakeries, undertaking establishments, and small stores. Although a bill failed at the recent session of the legislature, the people of New York are still struggling for a law which will permit the use of schools as voting centers.

This movement must succeed. Experience and reason make it clear that the public school is pre-eminently the place in which the people should voice their will in their own affairs.

It is economical. To use existing public buildings obviates the needless expense of renting private places, or purchasing, transporting, setting up, outfitting with means of warmth and light, taking down, re-transporting, and storing special booths for voting. This expense tends to increase with the growing frequency of elections.

It is worthy. The ballot box or voting machine is the instrument of society's self-determination, to attain which mankind has sacrificed and struggled. Hope of orderly progress for the race centers chiefly in the intelligent use of the ballot. The instrument of the ballot should have the most nobly significant housing the community can give. The public school building affords that housing.

It is appropriate. Elections are, first and finally, examinations of public intelligence. The common educational buildings are the natural places for the periodic testings of the common intelligence.

It is convenient. The public school houses are so distributed as to be easily reached by all the children of each district. The distance children go each day, adults may readily go to vote.

It is permanent. The storing of the voting apparatus in a cellar, loft, or shed excepting at election times suggests an intermittent and occasional democracy, as though the people were in authority for only a day or two each year. The continuing presence of the voting instrument, permanently installed in the community building, proclaims the continuing responsibility of citizens.

It is educative. In Milwaukee the question whether the public school houses should be used as the polling places was referred to the school principals. Their vote was unanimously in favor of it; the reason being that this use of the school buildings would be a positive aid in the most important part of the children's training. The central object of the public school is development of the capacity for citizenship. The practical difficulty is to visualize the business of democracy. The operation of voting is the supreme civic expression which, if the children can see it, makes for them a point of contact and departure from which they may go on to the understanding of the processes of government as reality.

It is simplifying. Making the public school houses the polling places implies making the voting precincts and the school districts identical. This does away with the confusion that arises from having two differing units of neighborhood, a confusion in part responsible for our failure to appreciate the neighborhood, the group unit of society next in importance to the family. This permanent identification of voting precinct and public school district reduces the possibility of gerrymandering. This use of the school house as voting center removes one practical reason for the failure of citizens to vote. Not infrequently citizens fail to vote at primaries and even at elections because they do not know the location of their polling places. Everybody knows the location of the public school house in his district.

It is unifying. Not all the citizens in every public school district send their children to the public school. There are parochial or private schools. But there is no parochial or private ballot box, and when this all-uniting instrument is permanently established in this Neighborhood House, it makes plain the fact that with the adult civic uses of this public building the distinctions that cause the separate schooling of the children have nothing to do.

It promotes better citizenship. The polling registers are the active membership lists of the district voting bodies. The establishment of the voting equipment in public buildings capable of being used as citizens' common council chambers, is the constructive first step toward the self-organization of the voting body into a deliberate body. This will substitute clarified common sense for muddy partisanship at the source of government.—Edward J. Ward, in the Survey Press Service.

URGES HALF HOLIDAY

The agitation among the retail employes for a weekly half-holiday is much to the fore just now, and is likely to increase rather than diminish with the passing of time.

In view, however, of the approach of the summer months, it seems to us highly desirable that action be taken as soon as possible. If the clerks are to reap the maximum of advantage from any concessions extended to them, these concessions should be made forthwith.

The principle of a weekly half-holiday is generally conceded to be just and desirable, and it only remains to fix a day that shall be generally acceptable.

Most employers are willing to agree to any day other than Saturday, although a not inconsiderable number prefer Saturday. The public has had no chance to express itself, but the experience of Australia and New Zealand indicates that there are no real difficulties attached to Saturday closing. The employes are agreeable to accept any day that is offered, but have expressed a preference for Saturday.

Saturday is the best day from the employers' standpoint. It means only one break in the week's work, and gives the employes the chance to rest on Sunday after the exertions of Saturday afternoon.

The News, therefore, urges the employers, employes, and the Council (representing the public) to get together and see that this measure of justice is at once put into operation. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. Let us not wait until threats of strikes are employed. Let us rather accede to the wishes of the clerks because they are reasonable and right.—Victoria, (B. C.) News.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1914

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American lawyers who attended the Bar Association meeting at Montreal found themselves in a land where judges are appointed for life and everybody is satisfied. Ex-President Taft spoke for the life-tenure system for the United States. This is Taft's legitimate attitude; for it is the antipodes to the recall either of judges or their decisions. Yet no well-read lawyer in Canada or from the United States could have been unaware of the fact that makes impossible here the system which works so well in Canada and Great Britain. Their judges have no power over legislation. They do not pass on the constitutionality of laws. They do not, as our judges do, govern their country. British and British-Imperial Parliaments are supreme. They may pass any sort of law they please, and the courts must accept the law as passed. Their courts have no political power. Our courts possess the power of saying the last word in government. Their judges may well be appointed for life; and if ours were merely arbiters of controversies between individuals we might safely follow the same system. But as long as our courts sit above the legislatures and executives elected by the people, to the extent that they are independent of the popular will, they constitute an irresponsible, even though learned and respectable, oligarchy. If ex-President Taft desires the adoption and extension of the excellent British system here, let him advocate it as a whole.—Collier's Weekly.

INIQUITOUS BILL.

Representative Stevens of New Hampshire is the author of a bill, H. R. 10518, designed to increase the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission by extending its jurisdiction by authorizing it to regulate the railroads relative to "the kind, number, and condition of its equipment and facilities, the operating rules, regulation and methods, train schedules, size of train crews, hours of labor of employes, or any other matter touching the operation of trains engaged in interstate or foreign commerce."

The principle of this bill is dangerous in the extreme, in that the Interstate Commerce Commission would be clothed with authority to change arbitrarily the conditions of labor upon the railroads, thus interfering with the prerogatives of the railroad brotherhoods and other organizations in negotiating with the several railroad corporations for the purpose of securing regulations, rates of wages, hours of labor, etc., that are mutually satisfactory.

While it would be unfair to cast any aspersion on the motives of the introducer of the bill, yet, the measure hides from view an exceedingly subtle and far-reaching power, dangerous to the welfare of the nation itself. If the bill should become law, and thus the power to regulate the conditions appertaining to labor be conferred upon the Interstate Commerce Commission, there would be greater reasons for the railroad interests seeking to control the appointment of the members of the commission. It is not at all improbable that under such conditions future commissions might be hostile to the best interests of the workers and might use their great and irresponsible power to their injury. A future Interstate Commerce Commission might issue an order which would be subversive to the interests of the employes of the various railroads—so obnoxious, indeed, as to precipitate a strike upon the railroads. Should this occur the strike would be against the order of a department of the United States government and would thus place the employes of the railroads in an embarrassing position not of their own making.

In other words, it may be that many of the railroad managements are favorable to this sort of legislation upon the single theory that in the event of a strike upon any railroad, as the result of the issuance of any orders from the Interstate Commerce Commission relative to labor conditions, they could take refuge behind the forces of government.

Wherever control over personal relations is delegated to some outside authority not selected by those affected by the determinations, there has been established a menace to individual freedom. Whenever the powers of government may be invoked to enforce personal relations there is an end of liberty. Defiance of governmental orders must result in the use of governmental force or government loses its power. The workers cannot give up the personal freedom for which they have fought and which they have won by their own efforts. Therefore it is the part of wisdom and patriotism to prevent the enactment of legislation that may result in conflicts between the workers and the government.

A law of this character would also entirely sweep away the system of the employes of railroads negotiating with the managers thereof for the purpose of adjusting grievances and settling controversies which arise between employers and employes. It would crush out the initiative and spirit of self-help that have made railroad employes such splendid men and citizens. The representatives of the American Federation of Labor and the representatives of the railroad brotherhoods have been and are now actively engaged in opposing this measure with confident expectation of success.

A DISCREDITED "TRADE."

Business as conducted by the "captains of industry" has been maintained separate from their morality. Their pent-up morality found expression in pet philanthropies and other pleasurable dissipations. These philanthropies blinded people to the semi-criminal practices, the wrongs, the greed, the cynical disregard for others that piled up vast fortunes. Because a part of the fortune was used for semi-public purposes the evils were condoned that the benefits might be shared. Rich men have counted upon such expenditures to buy them social esteem and prestige. They have endowed churches, libraries, universities, educational foundations that they might buy a claim to public consideration and gratitude.

But professional philanthropy as a shield or as an atonement for industrial iniquity and wrong has been damaged by the horrors of the Colorado strike and by the information educed by the Congressional investigation. Responsibility for the terrible wrongs and injustice has been laid upon one of the most conspicuous philanthropists of the age. Publicists, newspaper men, United States Senators and Representatives, and the workers have pilloried this man with the awful details of his industrial policy in Colorado. The satisfied piety of the reply, "My conscience acquits" does not now appease public indignation nor deflect blame. This is indeed a sign of healthy social morality and of developing social conscience when great masses of the people of all walks of life do not yield to the lure of great wealth and refuse immunity for condemnation for cynical indifference to human values and dogmatic assertion of his right to conduct business according to his own ideas. No interpretation of this determination under misleading terms of individual "freedom" deceives the people. The whole Rockefeller fortune cannot buy immunity from responsibility for the massacre of Ludlow or for the industrial war in Colorado. We are done with guilded sepulchres.

There is a new morality in the making—a morality that seeks out the festering wounds of industry and refuses to separate them from the personal morality of those responsible or from wealth made at the expense of human lives. Endowments and financing white slave investigations will no longer be imputed to a man for morality and merit. Only a habit of mind of honesty with all people and reverence for human life and human rights will suffice.

Donations of great wealth wrung from toil, representing unpaid wages, unpaid leisure, cannot longer subsidize public opinion or lull into quietude the public conscience. The people now recognize the difference between the man who gives his fortune and the man who gives himself. Would the people accept the life of Rockefeller? How then can they accept that which represents his life? The gift cannot be separated from the giver.

People want justice to fellow-men, not philanthropy. They know that great personality is worth more than much gold. They resent the power of gold that is stained by human blood and tarnished with blasted ideals. The Rockefellers have robbed the people of business ideals—they represent business policies of cut-throat, grasping competition. Their wealth can never lose the taint of its origin. Even when devoted to education or charity it murders the high tone of idealism that gives such purposes highest value and effectiveness. The corruptness of its origin follows the dollars.

It may be that these men who would give us charities do not understand. That is the worst of it—their wealth makes them unable to understand. But what the men of wealth are unable to understand they have taught the American people. They have taught the nation a social morality that they themselves cannot comprehend.

The words "My conscience acquits me" and "I have nothing to arbitrate" now mark the speakers as men who cannot understand just so certainly as those mysterious words on the wall marked the passing of Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon's mighty king.

In no other nation is public opinion so powerful as in ours. In no other country is it so susceptible to new concepts. Great wealth has been unconsciously educating public opinion, making it more appreciative of human values.

Continued education and agitation against immorality in business relations and against injustice to humanity will surely bring about the passing from power and honor of those who believe they may outrage justice, employ private armies, and maintain a moral standard that glorifies dividends. They have been tried, found wanting, and stand condemned.

CRITICISM OF THE JUDICIARY.

Many speeches have been made in Congress relative to the judiciary, some of which have been of a laudatory character, but the greater number, however, have been in opposition to the present position of the judiciary. On May 8 Representative Hinebaugh of Illinois delivered a speech in the House of Representatives on the recall of decisions of courts. Much of it was historical and dealt comprehensively with the origin of American courts. In discussing the controlling power of the courts Representative Hinebaugh said:

"The more carefully the questions involved are examined the more apparent becomes the dangers to the well-being and liberties of our people of the principle under which it is claimed that the judiciary branch of our government has a controlling power over the other departments of the government relative to constitutional questions.

"I contend that nowhere in the Constitution of the United States is the Supreme Court expressly authorized to declare an act of Congress unconstitutional. While it was proposed in the constitutional convention of 1787 to give the Supreme Court of the nation a limited veto upon Congress, the convention refused four different times to permit it.

"The Supreme Court for years claimed no such power and made no attempt to exercise it. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Supreme Court is the greatest court in the world. It enjoys jurisdiction and power not claimed by the supreme tribunal of any other nation on the globe. Such a court would not be tolerated in England, France, or Germany. When the legislative bodies of those nations enact a law no court can unmake that law. Measured by its tremendous power our Supreme Court is unrivaled.

* * *

"The recall of judicial decisions is condemned by its enemies without rhyme or reason. Some men say it would lead to anarchy; that it is a new-fangled idea * * * and like all other theories of government advanced by the Progressive party, is inimical to the liberties of the people regulated by law. Harvey, who discovered the circulation of blood in the human body was almost burned at the stake by the enemies of human progress. The direct primary and the initiative, referendum, and recall, equal suffrage, and the short ballot have been and still are bitterly fought by the enemies of progress in government, by men who fear the people, yet those theories of government are as certain to become the practical means by which our people are to be governed as it is certain that our blood does circulate through our bodies.

* * *

"Years after the Jeffersonian and Jacksonian contest for power between departments of the government had ended, the doctrine of complete immunity from criticism of our courts took root and flourished until undeniable evils crept into the system and such outrageous wrongs were perpetrated by our courts in the name of justice that the people reluctantly came to believe the charge that their highest courts were influenced by great corporations and special interests. So many complete examples and specific instances of laws being declared unconstitutional by our courts came to public notice that many men believed the supreme judges of our State and Federal courts were usurping powers that threatened the well-being of the people. This usurpation has taken two forms. First, an attempt not merely to interpret the law, but to legislate; and second, the exercise of the veto power on the law-making body—the too frequent exercise of the power to declare laws enacted by Congress and State legislatures unconstitutional and void. The solemn truth is that we have too many courts and too much judge made law. It requires as much heart and brain for a judge to decide the fate of a poor devil charged with a theft of a loaf of bread as it does to determine what shall be done with the millionaire thief whose manipulations of watered stock has brought anguish and ruin to many homes.

* * *

About ten years ago the legislature of New York passed a law limiting the hours of labor in bakeries in that State in the interest of the health and lives of its citizens engaged in that work. The law had been given intelligent consideration by the members of the State legislature. It had been approved by the governor and sustained by the highest court of the State of New York, and yet in the case of Lochner vs. New York, One hundred and ninety-eighth United States Reports, page 45, a divided court, five out of nine judges, declared that the law was unconstitutional. Mr. Justice Harlan in a dissenting opinion said:

> If there be doubt as to the validity of the statute, that doubt must therefore be resolved in favor of its validity, and the courts must keep their hands off, leaving the legislature to meet the responsibility for unwise legislation; but the dissenting opinion of Mr. Justice Holmes strikes the very heart of the matter when he says: "This case is decided upon an economic theory which a large part of the country does not entertain. If it were a question whether I agree with that theory (limiting the consecutive hours of labor in bakeries which may be required of an employe), I should desire to study it further and long before making up my mind. But I do not conceive that to be my duty, because I strongly believe that my agreement or disagreement has nothing to do with the right of a majority to embody their opinions in law."

* * *

"Mr. Speaker, it is because of the growing belief that our courts declare laws unconstitutional because they do not believe in the principle or economic ideas embodied in them rather than because they are in conflict with the constitution, that the doctrine of recall of judges and judicial decisions has found a permanent place in the minds of our people.

"It is common knowledge that the people have nothing to do with an appointment of a Federal judge or his retention in office, and it is just as generally understood that most Federal judges are nominated and appointed through the influence of special interests. Why should not the people whose servants the judges are supposed to be, have power to recall them and also their decisions when those decisions are in conflict with the public need and a righteous public demand? Do you say the people will make mistakes in attempting to secure control of their judicial servants by means of the recall? I answer that throughout history that same argument has been made against every attempt of the people to acquire some share in their government. Let the agents of special interests argue and protest as they may, the stubborn fact remains that the people intend to take such steps as may be necessary to compel the courts to serve the interests of the whole people, as was the original intent of the Constitution.

"We have recently decided that United States Senators shall be elected by the people, the judges of our State supreme courts are elected by the people. Why should powerful special interests have the right to influence the appointment of Federal judges, and the people, whose servants they are, be powerless to reach them or their decisions?"

During the progress of Representative Hinebaugh's speech, Representative Dies of Texas interrogated the speaker as follows:

"I should be glad to have a distinction drawn between human rights and property rights, if the gentleman would so favor us."

Representative Hinebaugh replied: "If the gentleman cannot draw a distinction between a human life and a mile of Pennsylvania railroad track, why, I must confess, I fear I could not enlighten him."

The communications forwarded to members of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate urging the adoption of the Bartlett-Bacon bill have resulted in the question of the exemption of fraternal, labor, consumers, agricultural, and horticultural organizations from the purview of the Sherman anti-trust law becoming an exceedingly pertinent and pressing question. Trade unionists and the farmers are a unit on this legislation and are strongly insisting upon their representatives in Congress to press for action the relief demanded by them. This campaign has resulted in a general study of the question and with all of the representatives of the productive forces being a unit, the chances for favorable legislation are better than ever before.

HUMBLER HEROES

By EDMOND VANCE COOKE.

It might not be so difficult to lead the light brigade,
While the army cheered behind you, and the fifes and bugles played;
It might be rather easy with the war-shriek in your ears
To forget the bite of bullets and the taste of blood and tears.
But to be a scrubwoman, with four
Babies or more,
Every day, every day setting your back
On the rack,
And all your reward forever not quite
A full bite
Of bread for your babies. Say!
In the heat of the day
You might be a hero to head a brigade
But a hero like her? I'm afraid! I'm afraid!

It might be very feasible to force a great reform;
To saddle public passion and to ride upon the storm;
It might be somewhat simple to ignore the roar of wrath,
Because a second shout broke out to cheer you on your path;
But he who, alone and unknown, is true
To his view,
Unswerved by the crush of the mutton-browed
Blatting crowd,
Unwon by the flabby-brained blinking ease
Which he sees
Throned and anointed. Say!
At the height of the fray,
You might be the chosen to captain the throng
But to stand all alone? How long? How long?

PLAYGROUND'S VALUE

A foot of playground is worth an acre of penal institutions.

That is the sentiment expressed a few days ago at a meeting of the City Club of Philadelphia, when the importance of municipal recreation was being discussed. One of the speakers, an official of the park department, related an incident that bears out the truth of the epigram. He observed a group of boys playing on the turf that had just been put down by the gardeners engaged in improving a square. When he reproved them, one of the boys replied: "I guess you are right, Mister. There's not room enough in this square for us and the grass, too. But where can we play?"

That was the protest and the plea of thousands of children, not in Philadelphia alone, but in every other city that is growing rapidly and developing new needs. Play is as essential to youth as food is to toiling men—essential to the health and mind and soul as well as body. Dirt has been called matter out of place. Badness among children is largely impulse and energy misdirected. A vast deal of juvenile crime, if the term "crime" may be used in this connection, is traceable to a lack of adequate playground and recreation.

It is the children who play in the streets that cause most trouble to parents and to the community. But few children play in the streets from choice. Most of them who play there do so simply because the city has failed to provide for their needs. Statistics gathered in many cities show that in neighborhoods where playgrounds are established there is a minimum of juvenile offenses, but that in crowded districts where playgrounds are not conducted there are all sorts of mischief and misdemeanors. And the records show furthermore that accidents and injuries to children are fewest where playgrounds are provided.

This is a matter that no city which has due regard for its present and future interests can afford to neglect. Every dollar spent upon park and playground systems is repaid a thousand times over in health and sound morals, and in the fostering of all those qualities that make for good citizenship.—Niagara Falls Journal.

A SERIOUS QUESTION

The economic and social problems connected with the feeble-minded are of far greater importance than the average "man on the street" realizes. Whatever the cause, the fact is that this class is increasing enormously in all civilized countries. Some figures in a report of the committee on visitors of the State charities of New York are commented on in The Journal of the American Medical Association.

"According to this report," says the writer, "there are in New York at present 32,000 feeble-minded persons. Of these 4,900 are provided for in institutions especially designed for their care, and 4,500 in other institutions, leaving at large 22,600. It has been estimated that of the 32,000 feeble-minded, 10,000 are girls and women of child-bearing age, 1,750 of whom are cared for in reformatories, prisons, and almshouses, leaving about 7,000 at large in the community.

"Goddard estimates that, in the way of spreading disease and immorality and increasing the stock of feeble-minded, a girl or woman of this class of child-bearing age is three times as great a menace to the community as a feeble-minded boy or man. The Royal Commission of England reports that in that country the feeble-minded are increasing at twice the rate of the general population. The importance of providing, by the establishment of additional institutions and the completion of those under way, for the custodial care or control of a greater number of the feeble-minded cannot be overestimated.

"The statements of Amos W. Butler, of Indiana, to the effect that feeble-mindedness produces more pauperism, degeneracy, and crime than any other force, that it touches every form of charitable activity, that it is felt in every part of the State, and affects in some way all the people, and that its cost is beyond comprehension, are again quoted as the best argument for the policies advocated."

IOWA'S PROGRAM

A bureau of social welfare has recently been organized in the extensive division of the University of Iowa. The program which it hopes ultimately to fulfill includes dissemination of information, investigations into social conditions throughout the state, the campaigns for specific advances shown by the investigations to be needed and feasible.

Social information will be disseminated by direct consultation, advice and suggestions, the establishment of social and civic centers in schoolhouses, exhibits on social conditions accompanied by a lecturer from the university, guiding reading for clubs, churches and other organizations, and "community institutes" to discuss local conditions and problems.

Investigations of social conditions will particularly concern agricultural sections. The bureau plans to co-operate with any organizations which desire to conduct comprehensive local surveys, or investigate a particular condition. Investigations will also be conducted by the bureau upon its own responsibility. A representative of the bureau is now engaged in supervisiting two social surveys of rural Iowa townships.

An inquiry which the bureau will begin at once will concern infant mortality. Several typical communities will be selected. The ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age, to births will be ascertained, and an effort will be made to learn the conditions of sanitation, health, feeding, social environment, parentage, and other social factors contributing to the death of infants.—Exchange.